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THE WAR THE HULKSTER IS DESTINED TO LOSE

SPORTS REVIEW

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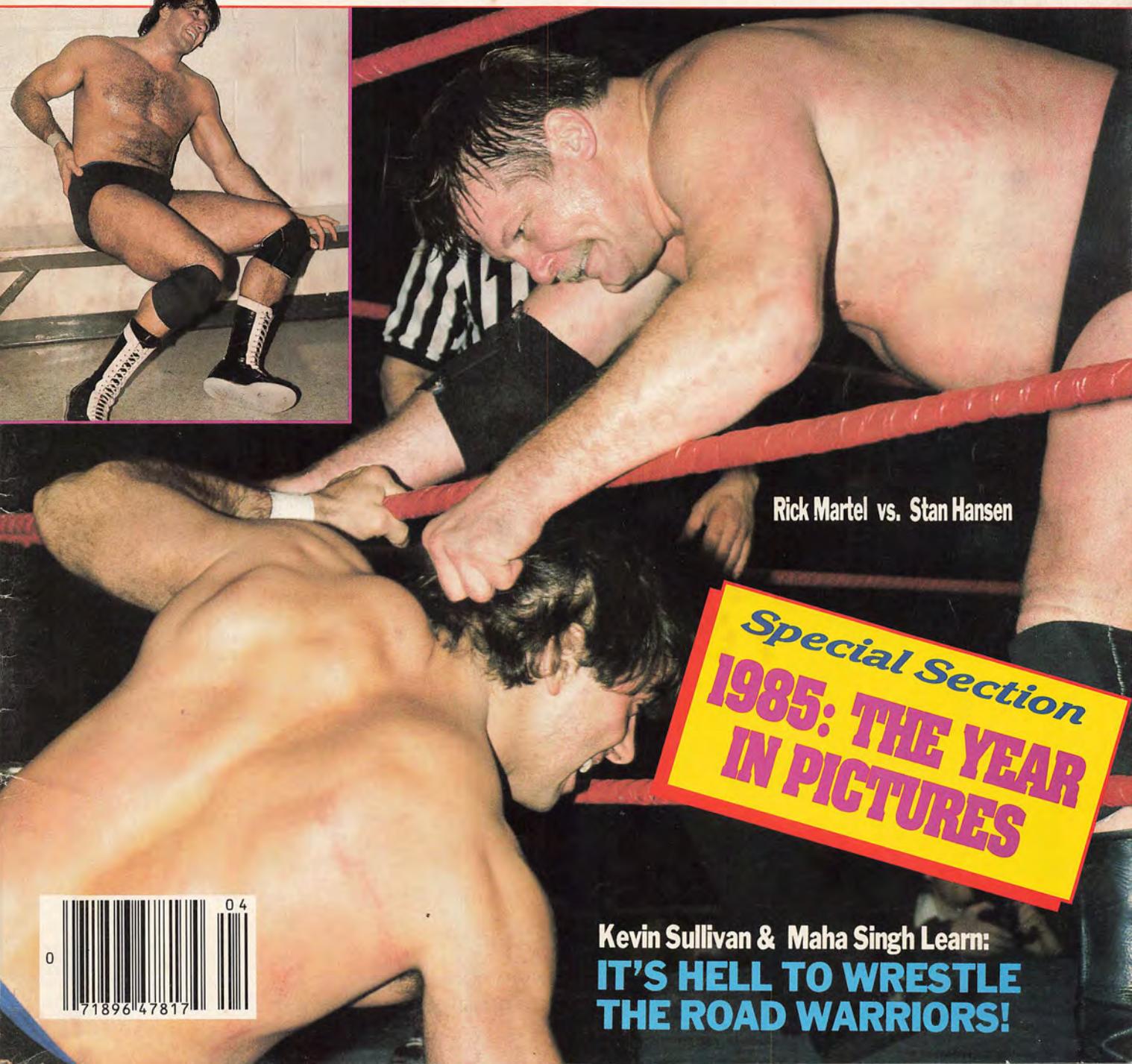
April 1986

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“QUITTER!”

THE LABEL THAT HAUNTS RICK MARTEL!



Rick Martel vs. Stan Hansen

Special Section
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SKINNY ISN'T ATTRACTIVE

If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthful. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

GAIN STAMINA AND SELF-CONFIDENCE TOO.

Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

GAIN WEIGHT! GAIN WOMEN!

If you think that's just a catchy slogan, we hope you will do yourself a favor. Count how many skinny men you see in movies, or on TV or anywhere . . . with pretty women. Notice whom they pick for clothing models. See the announcers, the M.C.'s, the newsmen. How many men in the public eye, in politics, in leadership roles in business are underweight? Not even astronauts are skinny guys. If you want to experience a change in your attitude, your business progress, your lifestyle, see what 5, 10, 15 pounds can do for you. See how it adds to your personal esteem, your confidence and, best of all, your well-being. Your day will come . . . and thank your lucky stars, it's within sight with *ShapeUp* working for you.

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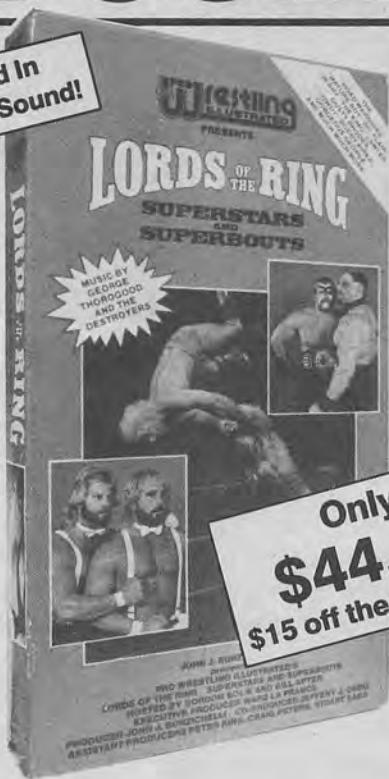
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The sport's most respected rankings

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MAILBAG

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CASTS OPINION

Excuse the penmanship of this letter, but I'm writing it in a fit of rage, after watching the WWF on television for the last several months. Paul Orndorff has won many of his matches by cracking his opponent over the head with the cast he has taken to wearing on his arm. These indiscretions have come in full view of the referee, who usually watches passively, then raises Orndorff's hand in victory.

Well here I am nestled comfortably in the family easy chair, watching Ace Orton go whack with his cast over the head of King Tonga. However, instead of counting out a victory for Orton, the beanbrain referee disqualifies him. Can you believe that? This has to be the most blatant double standard I've ever seen in my life. How does the WWF expect to get away with such garbage? They have no respect at all for their fans to pull a stunt like that.

I will never watch another WWF show. All my attention is turned to the other federations who treat their fans like intelligent people, not like six-year-old children.

TONY THOMAS
Omaha, NE

RECORD REVIEW

I recently listened to the WWF record album and I direct these comments toward Vince McMahon and Gene Okerlund: The commentary done by you two is atrocious. Announcers should at least try to be impartial. Af-

Vince McMahon and Gene Okerlund's commentary about Nikolai Volkoff and the Soviet Union on *The Wrestling Album* were greatly disturbing to reader Eric P. Cholminski.

FAN BITES DOG

ter Nikolai Volkoff finished "Cara Mia" and broke into the Soviet national anthem, Vince McMahon said, "The whole album has been great, but this is garbage. This is an insult. This is an American album. Someone throw a switch and get him out of here. This is disgusting."

What is disgusting is your commentary. I have lost the little respect I had for you as announcers. I have since made a tape of the album and deleted your disrespectful and unobjective remarks. Every man is entitled to sing the anthem of his country. If you didn't want the song on the album, you should have taken it off, plain and simple. But don't go insulting the man. I'm not a fan of Nikolai Volkoff's, but I was raised to respect the rights of others. Too bad McMahon and Okerlund can't say the same thing.

ERIC P. CHOLMINSKI
Philadelphia

MAILBAG

Just who does this Junkyard Dog think he is? I've watched him attack Terry Funk before the opening bell at least five separate times without so much as a warning. I've been a Funk fan for some 10 years, and I can guarantee that the ex-NWA champ will square the score with Dog. Terry Funk will never let a rat hound like Junkyard Dog get the best of him.

GEORGE KINSELLA
Montgomery, AL
(Continued on page 47)



BE TOUGH!

I MEAN REALLY **TOUGH!**

My method of DYNAMIC-TENSION gives you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

Lose "pot belly." Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a REAL man! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls . . . afraid of healthy competition.

HOW I CHANGED FROM A 97 LB. WEAKLING TO A REAL MAN.

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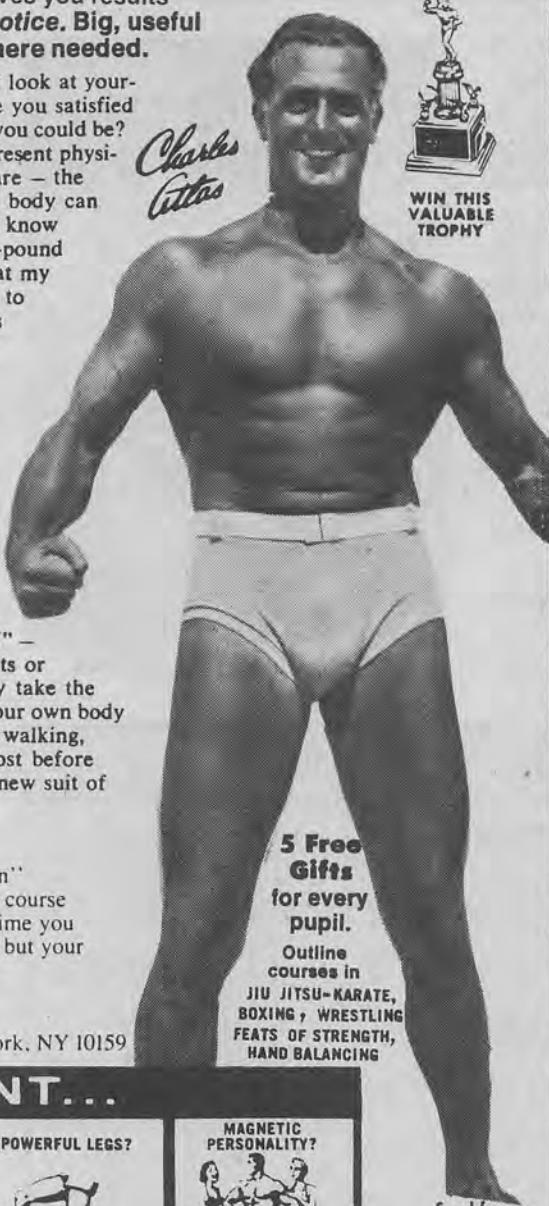
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THE TATTER

TAMPA, FL: The earth's first soft drink has grounded Blackjack Mulligan. Mulligan had rushed to the rescue of his son, Barry Windham, as he was being triple-teamed by Lex Lugar, Maha Singh, and Kevin Sullivan. In the ensuing melee, Sullivan cracked open a bottle of Perrier and slashed Mulligan in the eye with the jagged edge. Mulligan fell to the ground, clutching his bleeding eye, and was rushed to a local Tampa hospital. Tests there revealed no permanent eye injury, although Mulligan must wear a patch for several weeks.

The encounter has infuriated the Mulligan family. "Enough is enough," cried Kendall Windham.



BLACKJACK MULLIGAN

"For years I've grown up under the spectre of Sullivan and his tribe of unholy misfits. I've come to expect the worst from him but this latest act is unconscionable. It's one thing to leave on a figure-four after a man submits. That's cruel. But to intentionally blind a man? To attempt to put someone's eye out? That is beyond anything I can relate to."

"I have never seen Barry so worked up in my life. He wanted to break into Sullivan's compound the other night and open his skull. It took Pop and I hours to convince him that revenge would be better obtained in the ring, out in public."

Not known for their bible-toting habits, the Mulligans nevertheless seem willing to subscribe to the ancient code of Hammarabi. "An eye for an eye sounds great to me," Blackjack scowled.

—Barry Simon

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CHICAGO: Wrestling the AWA title from Stan Hansen will be no easy task. Hansen demonstrated exactly how hard it can be to America's champion Sgt. Slaughter, whom he met here in his first major mid-western title defense.

Fifteen minutes into this sizzling brawl, Hansen slugged referee Larry Lisowski and was promptly disqualified. It was not immediately known whether the new AWA champ had taken a page from a former champion's book, and like Nick Bockwinkel

(Continued on page 52)

Never before have so many respected wrestling journalists been involved in so important a venture. The best correspondents from all over the world have been enlisted to report on the news behind the news. Each month, our team of reporters will bring you the most up-to-date news available from all corners of the globe

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You Need Help To Break This Addiction! You Need Help To Stop Smoking!

If you want to quit smoking, HELP IS NOW AVAILABLE. A new Smoking Deterrent Drug Product called NICO-QUIT can give you the help you need to once and for all stop smoking.

HERE'S HOW NICO-QUIT WORKS

When you wake up in the morning you will spray your mouth with NICO-QUIT. You will taste a clean, pleasant peppermint flavor that freshens your breath. When you have your first cigarette of the day, NICO-QUIT goes to work instantly. NICO-QUIT contains a medically safe ingredient (Silver Acetate) that reacts with the nicotine in the cigarette smoke. The moment you take a drag on your cigarette, NICO-QUIT almost miraculously causes you to instantly lose your desire to take another puff... so effectively you'll immediately put out the cigarette.

But remember... smoking is an addictive habit. Your body will demand another dose of nicotine which means you'll light up another cigarette. But NICO-QUIT instantly counteracts the demand and you'll put out the second cigarette even more quickly than the first!

This pattern of demand and counteraction will slowly but surely affect how often you reach for a cigarette. More and more time will elapse between cigarettes. And every time you succumb and light up a cigarette, you'll instantly realize you can't smoke the cigarette... that you don't want to smoke the cigarette... and will crush it out with a new found strength... and with a new found pleasure of finally realizing that you truly are going to quit smoking!

Found Safe By The Advisory Review Panel Appointed By
The Department Of Health And Human Service Of
The United States Food And Drug Administration

Silver Acetate (the medically safe ingredient in NICO-QUIT) has been found safe to use by the Food and Drug Administration. You'll be amazed how quickly NICO-QUIT helps you lose the desire to smoke. And just one spraying of NICO-QUIT lasts for up to four hours. Then, just spray again and you're protected for another four hours. The pleasant flavor doesn't affect the taste of food or drink... but always reacts with the nicotine in cigarette smoke.

LET NICO-QUIT HELP YOU QUIT SMOKING ONCE AND FOR ALL!

No matter how long you've been smoking... no matter how many packs of cigarettes you smoke each day... no matter how many times you've tried to stop smoking and failed... NICO-QUIT WILL HELP YOU TO COMPLETELY STOP SMOKING in just 3 short weeks. It's guaranteed or your full purchase price will be refunded with absolutely no questions asked.

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According to the American Cancer Society, these are the changes that take place in your body when you stop smoking:

WITHIN 20 MINUTES

- Blood pressure drops to normal
- Pulse rate drops to normal rate
- Body temperature of feet and hands increases to normal

AFTER 8 HOURS

- Carbon monoxide level in blood drops to normal
- Oxygen level in blood increases to normal

AFTER 24 HOURS

- Chance of heart attack decreases

AFTER 48 HOURS

- Nerve endings start regrowing
- Ability to smell and taste things is enhanced

AFTER 72 HOURS

- Bronchial tubes relax, making breathing easier
- Lung capacity increases

WITHIN 2 WEEKS TO 3 MONTHS

- Circulation improves
- Walking becomes easier
- Lung function increases up to 30 percent

1 TO 9 MONTHS

- Coughing, sinus congestion, fatigue, shortness of breath decrease
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The Inquiring Reporter

No one knows wrestling better than the fans.

Because of this, we're now giving these experts a forum for their views and opinions. Each month, we'll ask a controversial question and have the fans answer—no matter what those answers might be!

THE QUESTION:

"Do you think certain anti-American wrestlers should be deported?"

THE ANSWERS:

Peter Baggott, Inglewood, CA: "You're damn right I do, and I wish somebody would have the guts to speak up about it! Uncle Sam has been played for an Uncle Sap too long. These Russians and Arabs come over and bitch about what a rotten system this is, and all the while they're lining their pockets with those good old American greenbacks they love to buy their Cadillacs with. If I had it my way, I'd take the torch out of the Statue of Liberty and replace it with a gun!"



If Peter Baggott had his way, The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff (double-teaming Mike Rotundo) would be deported.



To deny the Koloffs and Krusher Khrushchev (above) a chance to make a living in United States wrestling rings would be going contrary to the basic principles of the Constitution, according to Kim Wenner.

Kim Wenner, Madison, WA: "I can't believe you'd seriously ask a question like that. I was shocked when one of your magazines printed a story demanding that the Koloffs be deported, and I wrote you an angry letter that you never printed. Well, I'll have my say, now, thank you. You people are journalists, so I assume you're familiar with the Constitution. If you deny the Koloffs or anyone the right to criticize our system, you may as well pack your bags, too. They have just as much right to free speech as you do."

Roger Spain, Burlington, VT: "I'm all in favor of deporting wrestlers, but not just the foreigners who smart off about America. It's a free country; they can say what they want. I'm in favor of deporting all rulebreakers who menace the sport I love. Wrestling has no place for criminals. Ship 'em off to some greedhead promoter in Japan, or Mexico, or anywhere—wrestling's all over the globe, isn't it? Only scientific wrestlers should be allowed to compete in America."

(Continued on page 50)

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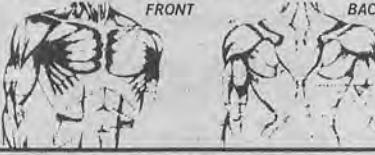
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SCRAPBOOK

FEBRUARY/ MARCH 1966

TONY PARISI AND Johnny Valentine won the WWF tag team titles from the team of Dan and Bill Miller ... Bruno Sammartino retained his WWF championship in 17:51 at Madison Square Garden when he caught Baron Scicluna in a reverse backbreaker ... Fans in Minnesota started a campaign to ban for life the following: Waldo Von Erich, Bill Miller, Fred Blassie, Smasher Sloan, Mr. Moto, Benny Ramirez, The Destroyer, Eric Froelich, Gene Kiniski, Wilbur Snyder, Karl Gotch, The Sheik, Bruiser, Crusher, Tony Borne, The Beast, Kurt Stein, The Ox, Kenji Shibuya, Fritz Von Erich, Mad Dog Vachon, Killer Kowalski, and the Graham brothers. Their attempts were unsuccessful ... Pedro Morales built a winning streak and a legion of fans in Texas ... Bobby Shane and Bearcat Wright won battle royals in Waterloo, Iowa, and Ho-

nolulu, Hawaii ... In Lubbock, Texas, Wahoo McDaniel defeated Mike DiBiase, the father of Ted DiBiase ... THE RATINGS: 1—Bruno Sammartino; 2—Gene Kiniski; 3—Lou Thesz; 4—Verne Gagne; 5—Karl Gotch; 6—Kenji Shibuya; 7—Fritz Von Erich; 8—Baron Scicluna; 9—Johnny Valentine; 10—Ray Stevens. TAG TEAMS: 1—Johnny Valentine & Tony Parisi; 2—Larry Hennig & Harley Race; 3—Ray Stevens & Pat Patterson; 4—Dan & Bill Miller; 5—George & Sandy Scott; 6—Rip Hawk & Swede Hanson; 7—The Assassins; 8—Bob Orton & Boris Malenko; 9—Bob Geigel & Bob Brown; 10—The Kentuckians.

tino as a capacity Madison Square Garden crowd stood and cheered ... The Professional eliminated Rocky Johnson to win the \$11,000,



The Professional celebrates his victory in the \$11,000 Los Angeles battle royal.

22-man Los Angeles Battle Royal. On the same card, Fred Blassie kept his four-year L.A. winning streak intact when he defended his Americas title against Dutch Savage ... Jack Brisco defeated Dory Funk Jr. in Tampa, but Funk's NWA title was not on the line ... Bobby Heenan threatened NWA President Sam Muchnick with a lawsuit when the villainous manager was barred from competition in St. Louis ... El Mongol won a 14-man elimination tournament to become the new Georgia heavyweight champion ... Lou Albano needed 18 stitches to close a cut on his head after being attacked by Bruno Sammartino. Albano was in Boston to present a trophy to his WWF tag team champions, The Mongols, when Bruno grabbed the trophy and hit the Captain over the head ... Pat Patterson and Billy Graham defeated Ray Stevens and Peter Maivia in San Francisco to capture the vacant U.S. tag team title ... Blackjack Lanza and The Bruiser were both disqualified when the referee lost control of their bloody match in St. Louis.

(Continued on page 54)



Bruno Sammartino fastens the WWF World title belt around the waist of Pedro Morales as former champion Ivan Koloff (background) taunts the pair. Three weeks earlier, Koloff had ended Bruno's 7½-year reign as champion.

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ASK THE STARS

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THE "QUESTION OF THE MONTH" IS:

"What gets you fired up for a match?"

**Submitted by:
Mike Porozzo
San Jose, CA**



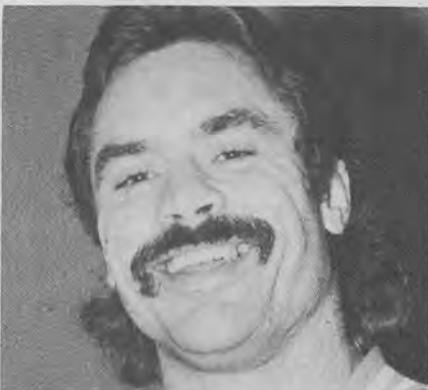
TERRY GORDY

"A tiny snip of Captain Jack does me fine. Ain't nothin' like takin' a crystal thin buzz into the ring. A little juice gets me and the 'Birds flyin' high. A lotta old lady boogers might frown on that. I say to hell with 'em. The Birds ain't telling kids to go do it. A Captain Jack buzz ain't nothin' to toy with. Only badasses from Badstreet should be messin' with the Southern bubbly."



STEVE WILLIAMS

"Got me a game film that was a 25th birthday present from Coach Switzer. It's called *Dr. Death's Greatest Hits*, and it's a 45-minute clip of my hardest pops at Oklahoma. There's one I had against Nebraska's pulling guard on a blitz that hospitalized the poor guy for two months. Never played another down. The tape gets me so psyched I start frothing at the corners. I get in that ring and it's fourth-and-one for the next 30 minutes."



RICK RUDE

"It's a routine I've followed since I was a football stud in junior high school. Out comes the Rude Book and I go right to the As. Monique Alexander. Belinda Amberson. Wendi Ander. Then on to the Bs. I line me up 20 or 30 five-star ladies for a postmatch party and believe you me that puts jet fuel in my turbines. If you knew Bobo Cupcake like I did, then you sure as hell wouldn't want to be staring at Kevin Von Erich for too long."



IVAN KOLOFF

"I watch the great film *Potemkin*. It makes Ivan's blood giggle with pride. I become, how you say, *awash* with patriotic, nationalistic pride. I turn red. *Potemkin* describe Russian Revolution. It reminds me what I fighting for. It reminds me of proud struggle that we owe to Mother country. I barely can contain myself. My grand-uncle, Sergei Kalmikoff, was decorated like hero by Lenin himself. Watch movie, America. Then you might understand."

RS ANSWER OF THE MONTH



JERRY LAWLER

"I stare at a picture of my wife and children. My wife is a beautiful woman who I love deeply and dearly. I stare at her picture and repeat to myself that my opponent wants to kill her. I keep saying it over and over again. He wants to kill Paula. The thought of never seeing Paula again is the most distressing thing I can imagine. I say to myself, *I must stop him*. No one stands much of a chance after that."



THE BARBARIAN

"I sit naked in my cousin's meat freezer for half an hour. It cuts my circulation. Icicles form in my nose and ears. To stay alert I pound my chest and head. In these moments I hate everything that walks and breathes. It is this attitude that I bring to the arena. I can recall the intense discomfort in a moment and the feeling demands satisfaction. Satisfaction in the texture of my opponent's blood."

KEVIN SULLIVAN

"I confer with the evil Fairies of Glastonbury. We share the blood of the Sacred Jackel. The ceremonial rites are fatal to most people, thus details must never be revealed. If the match commands special attention, I might share a cup of Holy Brewer's Yeast with Baltazar, a notorious, renegade Druid. Through him I receive communion with my Dark guides."

DICK MURDOCH

"When I have a big match, I give the ranch hands the day off and I clean out my stables. It's a dirty, putrid job and I hate it, but it makes me meaner than a sooty with a thorn up her butt. After I'm done with that, I'll rassle around with Patty M., my prize heifer. She's a mean ol' cow, but I usually end up knockin' her on her tail. After that I can snack on a punk like Butch Reed."

EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET

"I always reserve two tables at the Snake Pit. The boys over there are so adorable. If I win my match there's always half a case of Dom waiting for me over cracked ice. We have such a fine, ribald time of it. A night of good indecent partying is all I need to get my edge up. Miss Linda is such a pooh, though. She feels so bad for my beaten opponent that she invites him to the Pit, too. She's so dotty, I love it."

SGT. SLAUGHTER

"I devour two or three Duke Wayne flicks, then hole up in my isolation tank for an hour. Deprived of all environmental sound except for the Star Spangled Banner, which plays lightly in the background, I can concentrate completely on the task at hand. I come out in complete command. After a quick Pledge of Allegiance, I'm ready for the ring."

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April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

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September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdinck.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

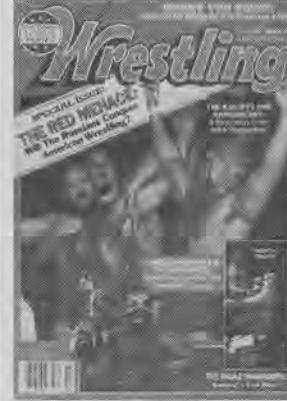
May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

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OCTOBER 1985

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

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September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

January 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

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January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

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November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, The Road Warriors.

February 1986/Stories include: Rock 'n' Roll Express, The Road Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

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December 1978/Stories include: Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

February 1979/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.



AUGUST 1985

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

July 1979/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

August 1979/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

October 1979/Stories include: Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.

December 1979/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.

January 1980/Stories include: Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

February 1980/Stories include: Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

March 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

April 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

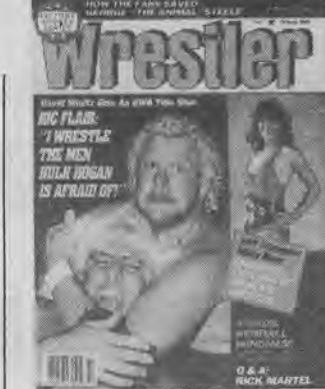
May 1980/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

August 1980/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

October 1980/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.



OCTOBER 1985

November 1980/Stories include: Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.

January 1981/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

February 1981/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

March 1981/Stories include: Rich, Sammons, Blassie, Wrestling II.

May 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

June 1981/Stories include: Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

July 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

August 1981/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

October 1981/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

December 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.

January 1982/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

March 1982/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

April 1982/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

June 1982/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

July 1982/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

August 1982/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

December 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

March 1983/Stories include: Piper, Reed, Valiant, Roberts.

April 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

May 1983/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorf.

June 1983/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

July 1983/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

August 1983/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

September 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

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April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

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September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

October 1984/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.

November 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

December 1984/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.

January 1985/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloff.

February 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.

March 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Martel, Rude.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

May 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Backlund, Santana, Rich.

June 1985/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.

July 1985/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.

August 1985/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.

September 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.

October 1985/Stories include: Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.

November 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.

December 1985/Stories include: Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.

January 1986/Stories include: 20th Anniversary, 10 Greatest Wrestlers, Rhodes, Hogan, Sammartino.

February 1986/Stories include: Hogan, Orndorf, Flair, Hansen.

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WRESTLER OF THE MONTH

STAN HANSEN

IT WAS ONE of those months. The editorial staff of *Sports Review Wrestling* was sorely tempted to split the "Wrestler of the Month" honor between as many as a half-dozen illustrious nominees.

After his controversial "I Quit" victory over Tully Blanchard at Starrcade '85, Magnum T.A. proved he was worthy of regaining the U.S. championship by pinning Blanchard in several rematches across the country. Mark Youngblood carried on the noble legacy of his late brother, Jay, by winning the World Class TV title, deeply inspiring the fans in that area. Rulebreakers, who allegedly won belts with the aid of foreign objects are, by virtue of their command of major titles, no less deserving of being named "Wrestler of the Month." In that category we would include Arn Anderson, whose victory in the World Championship TV title elimination tournament was by far the biggest singles accomplishment of his career. We must also mention the eternally devious Dick Slater, who defeated Butch Reed for the North American title—whether his valet, Dark Journey, interfered with her loaded pocketbook or not, he is the top-ranked champion in the volatile Mid-South region, and deserves dubious credit for his "success."

Nonetheless, there can be only one choice: Stan Hansen defeated Rick Martel to win the AWA World championship on December 29 at the Byrne Meadowlands Arena in East Rutherford, New Jersey. Four days prior to that match, Hansen had sent Martel home for Christmas with a badly injured back, courtesy of repeated slams into a steel ringpost. Hansen capitalized on the damage in his title-winning effort, focusing upon maneuvers such as saltos and a variety of suplexes to exacerbate Martel's lingering injury. When Hansen caught Martel in a version of the Boston crab, specifically designed to localize pain in the lower back (the new champ calls it the Brazos Valley backbreaker), Martel was forced to submit rather than risk paralysis.

If this scenario seems vaguely familiar, you're correct. There are curious similarities between the AWA championship picture and what was happening in the WWF two years earlier. In the holiday season of 1983, The Iron Sheik severely injured Bob Backlund's back and capitalized on the weakness by placing him in excruciating surfboard holds and repeatedly suplexing him. Ultimately, the Sheik maneuvered Backlund into the camel clutch, which convinced Backlund's manager, Arnold Skaaland, to throw in the towel.

There are also striking similarities between the wrestlers involved: Backlund and Martel are brawny but scientific 1,001-hold men morally affronted by rulebreaking; Sheik

and Hansen are as gifted scientifically as any wrestlers in the world, but have a bloodlust for sadism and humiliation that borders on psychotic.

There the similarities end, though. Backlund, frustrated by wrestling politics, went from semi-activity to a premature retirement coaching amateurs, and the Sheik's title reign lasted four weeks. As our story on page 34 indicates, Martel will definitely be back after his title soon. It is also unlikely that Hansen's own title reign will be as abbreviated as Sheik's.

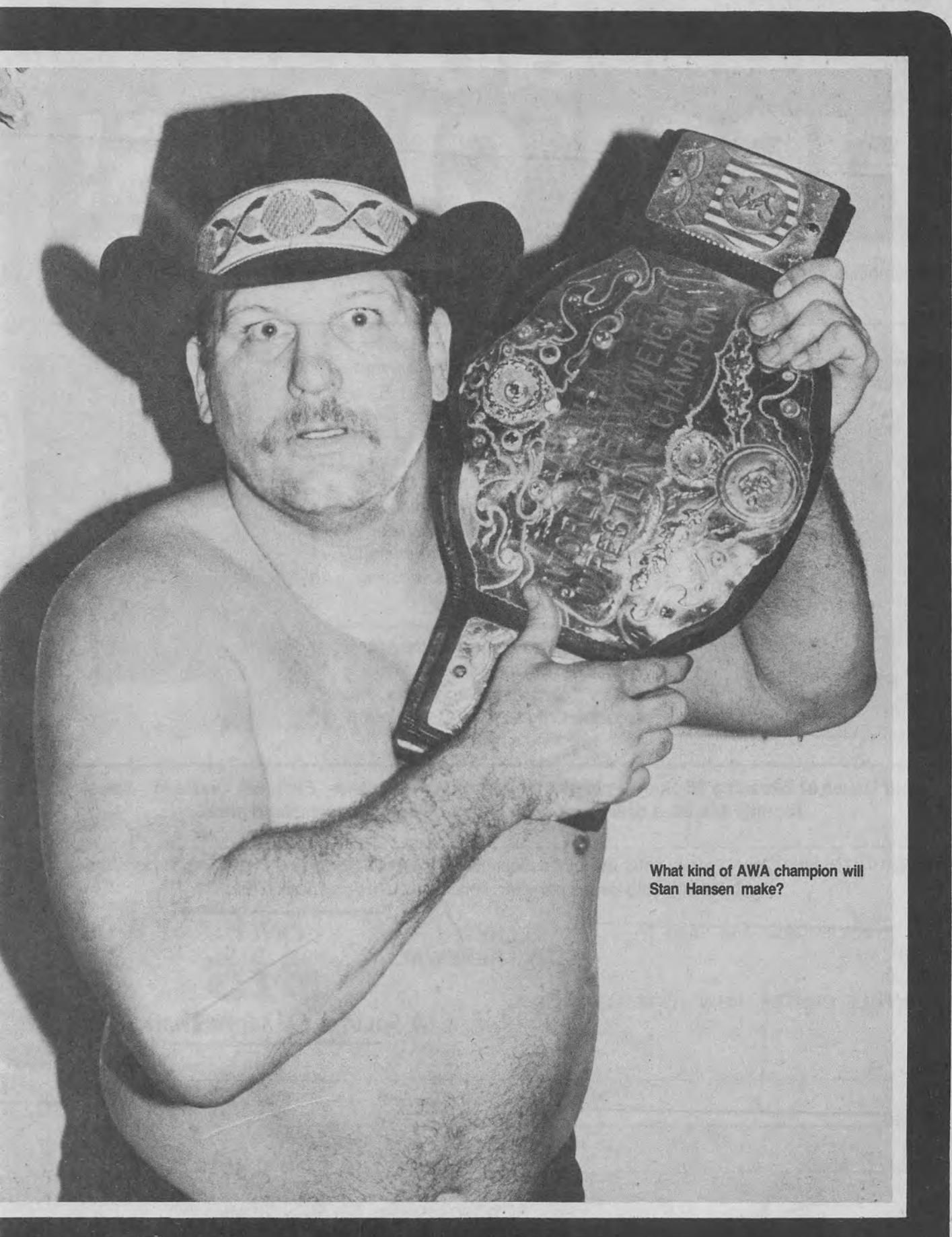
What kind of a champion will Stan Hansen make? If he hangs on to the belt for any appreciable amount of time, he will undoubtedly go down in the record books as the most hated world champion in the 26-year history of the AWA. Hansen is a cutthroat savage, and he's proud of it. We're talking about a man who brags about beating his own wife and children and throws chairs at broadcasters. Our veteran correspondent Matt Brock put it this way when he heard the news of Hansen's victory over Martel: "Look, it was bad enough when Bockwinkel was AWA champion for so many years, but at least that guy had a little slimy charm. He wasn't out to cripple anybody, and he was far from being a madman. He was, and is, one of the sport's foremost intellectuals.

"But Hansen is a killer. He'd just as soon break your neck as spit on the sidewalk, and that's no bull he's peddling in interviews. Bockwinkel as champion was a little like Richard Nixon as President. Sure, he was a crook and a cheat, but he was smart, and up until the very end he was dependable. Hansen, my God, that's like electing Idi Amin to the White House. You wouldn't want his finger on the button, if you know what I mean. Frankly, I'm a little scared about that maniac strapping a world title around his beer belly."

Mr. Brock didn't mention the most horrifying possibility. Over the years, Hansen has been disqualified in an appalling number of matches due to his uncontrollable temper. He must realize the peculiar carte blanche that goes with being World champion. Any DQ means he retains his title. Hypothetically, he could end all of his title defenses in less than a minute with homicidal rampages of rulebreaking, and walk off with the belt as innocent as a new-born babe. We don't expect to see a champion behave that way, but has wrestling ever had a more vicious champion than Stan Hansen?

Some people felt that way when Ric Flair first won the NWA title. As it happens, the burden of responsibility ennobled him, and he is acknowledged as a great champion. We can only wait to see the true nature of Stan Hansen emerge. □

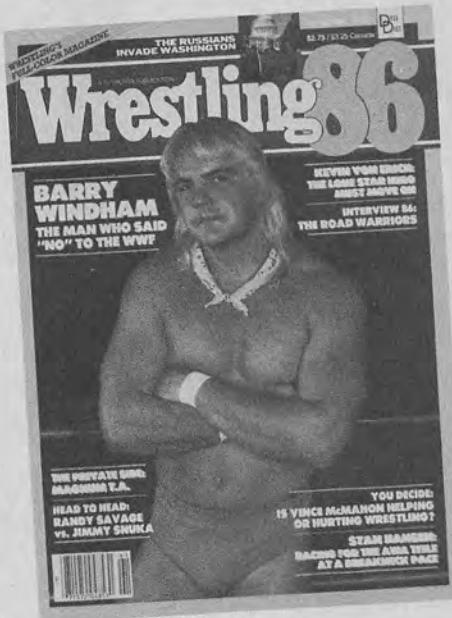
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What kind of AWA champion will
Stan Hansen make?

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1985

THE

YEAR IN PICTURES



ANOTHER 12 MONTHS have passed into the unalterable pages of history, and in professional wrestling terms it may have been the most significant 12 months ever to have taken place.

It was a year that began quietly enough. Hulk Hogan was popular as ever, Ric Flair was still turning back every challenge that came his way, and Rick Martel quietly and efficiently maintained one of the most scientific reigns the AWA World title had ever seen.

By year's end, all three major titleholders would be poised on the brink of disaster: Hogan's popularity would still be stratospheric, but his title reign would be in serious jeopardy courtesy of "Macho Man" Randy Savage. Flair's reign would come under serious question and criticism as the result of his Starrcade '85 match with Dusty Rhodes. And Martel's house of cards in fact would come tumbling to the ground, with the deck to be stacked once again by Stan Hansen.

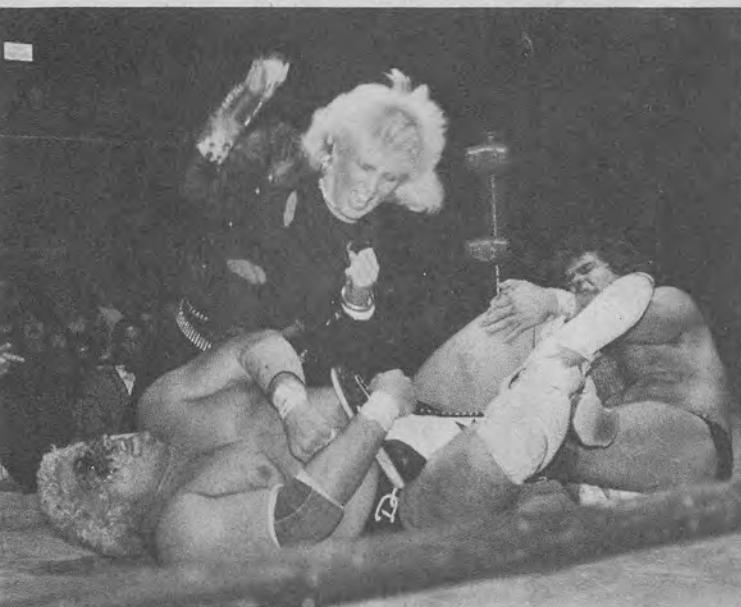
In between, all sorts of incredible things took place, not the least of which were WrestleMania, The Great American Bash, and *Saturday Night's Main Event*.

And of course, there were the ever-present feuds, injuries, grudges, and sensational matchups that help make any year memorable in this, the most colorful and action-packed sport of all.

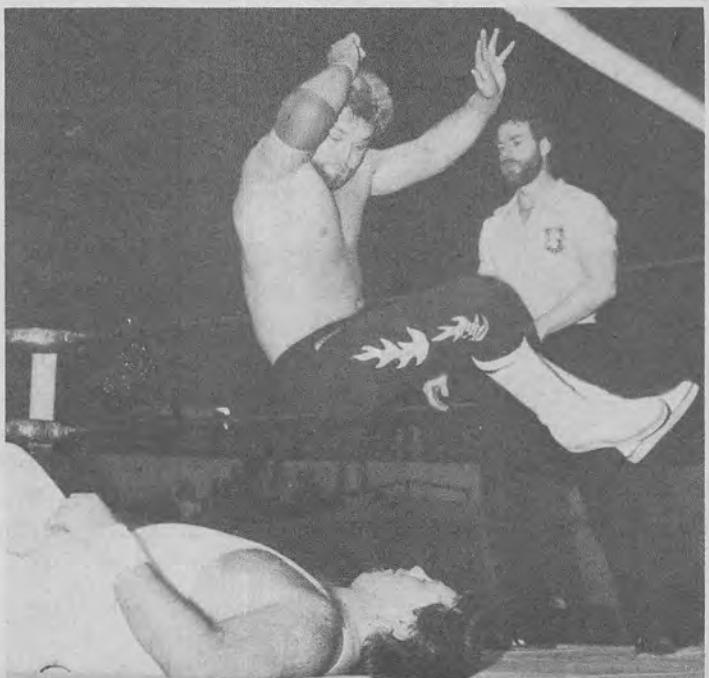
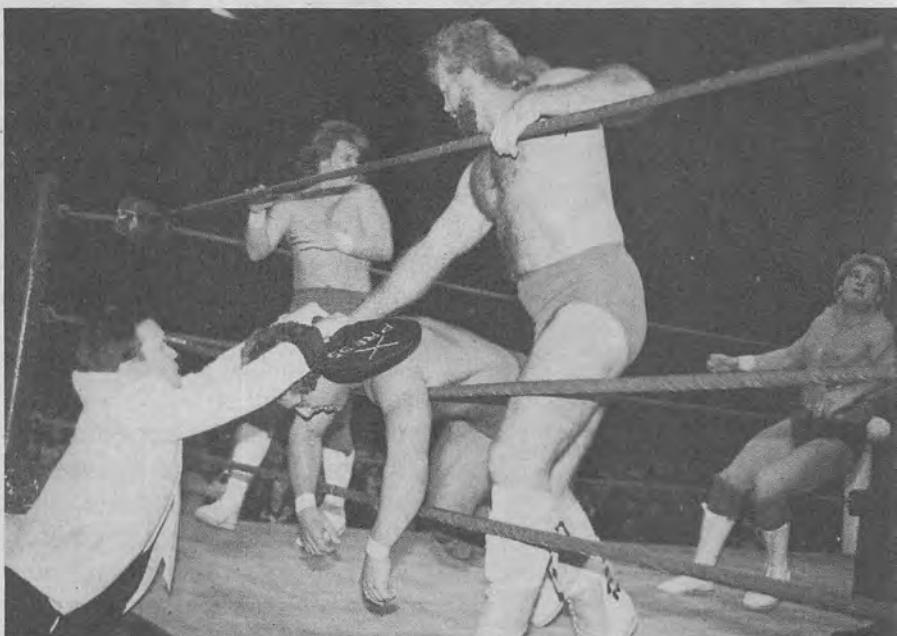
On the pages that follow, you'll see a month-by-month collection of the greatest photographic highlights of 1985. It's a remarkable pictorial review of the most remarkable year ever in professional wrestling history. We at *Sports Review Wrestling* are honored to bring it to you.



JANUARY

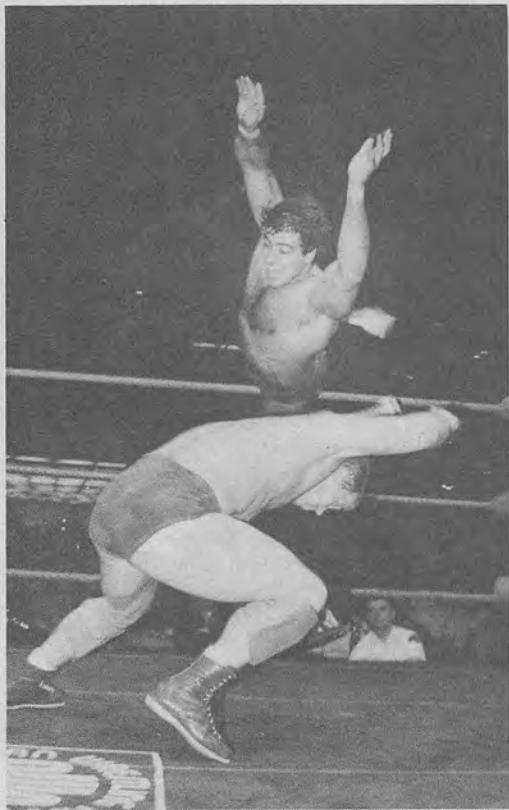


Left: Baby Doll, freeing Tully Blanchard from Dusty Rhodes' figure-four leglock, makes her Mid-Atlantic debut. She would establish herself as a sharp thorn in the Dream's side. Above: Rick Rude gets a little help from manager Percy Pringle in defeating Pez Whatley for the Southern title. Below: Jim Cornette has some influence over The Midnight Express' victory over The Fabulous Ones for the World Class tag team title.



Above: When Lou Albano began his work with Multiple Sclerosis, all the good that was buried deep beneath his meaty surface began to emerge. Albano turned fan favorite and led Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo to a WWF tag team title victory over Dick Murdoch and Adrian Adonis. Right: Eddie Gilbert, a longtime fan favorite who turned bad, dethrones Jerry Lawler as Mid-Southern champion.

FEBRUARY



Above: In the scientific classic of the year, Rick Martel successfully defends his AWA title against former WWF champion Bob Backlund. Right: Chris Adams upsets Kerry Von Erich for the World Class American title. Below: Wrestling by himself because his scheduled partner, Jerry Blackwell, is injured, Sgt. Slaughter wins the tag team battle royal at the Meadowlands and is presented with a \$100,000 check by Verne Gagne.



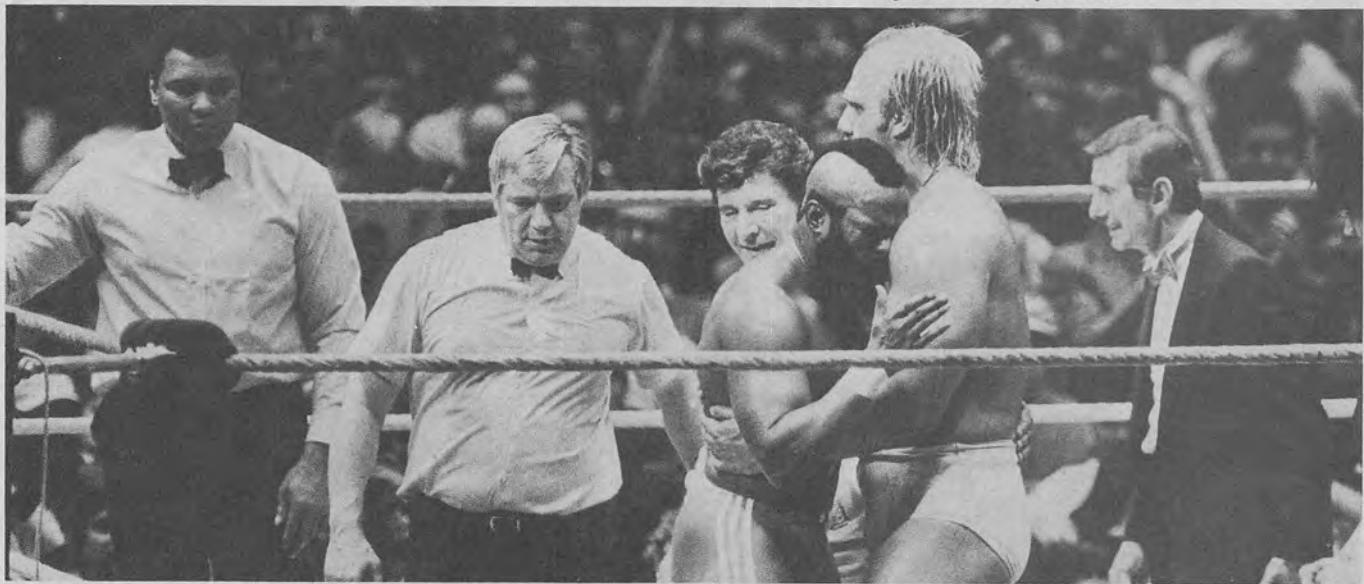
Above: Jesse Barr wins the Florida title from Brian Adidas. Right: Lelani Kai turns women's wrestling upside down with an upset victory over Wendi Richter.



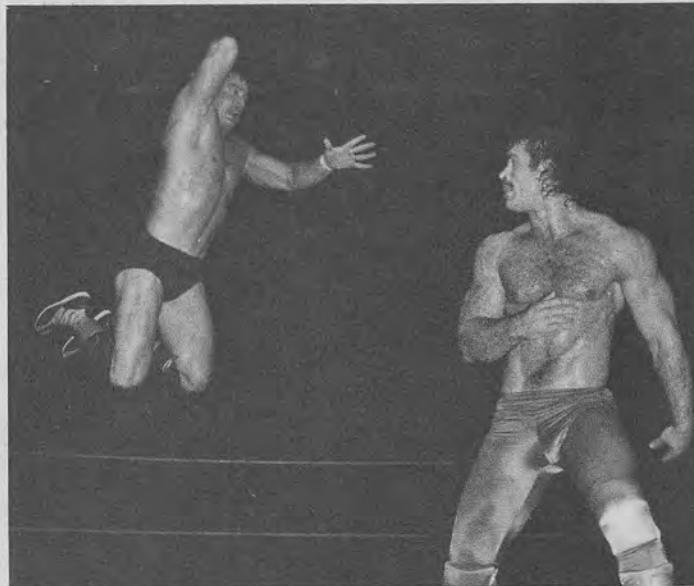
MARCH



Above left: Chris Adams' turn to rulebreaker is justified by his NWA title shot with Ric Flair. Above right: Tonga Kid leaves the WWF and begins a feud with Larry Zbyszko. Below: WrestleMania, the biggest event in the history of the sport, is over and Mr. T and Hulk Hogan embrace after their victory over Paul Orndorff and Roddy Piper. Also in the ring are referees Muhammad Ali and Pat Patterson, timekeeper Liberace, and ring announcer Billy Martin.



Left: Also at WrestleMania, Richter regains her World Women's title from Kai, and Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik defeat Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo for the WWF tag team title. Above: The Randy Savage and Jerry Lawler feud heats up.



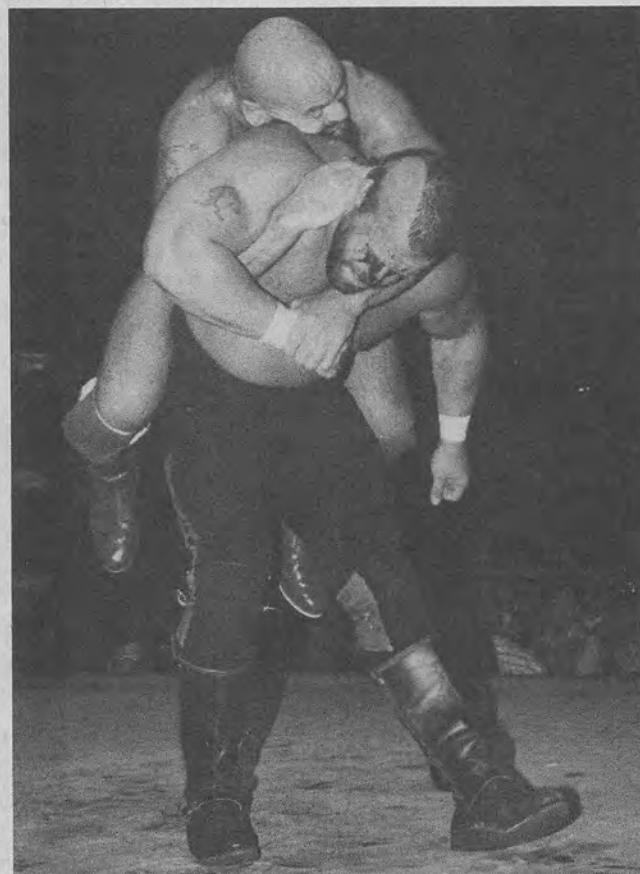
Above: Brian Blair was flying high after regaining the Florida title from Rick Rude. Rude would have to restrain himself from condemning his manager, Percy Pringle, whose interference backfired.

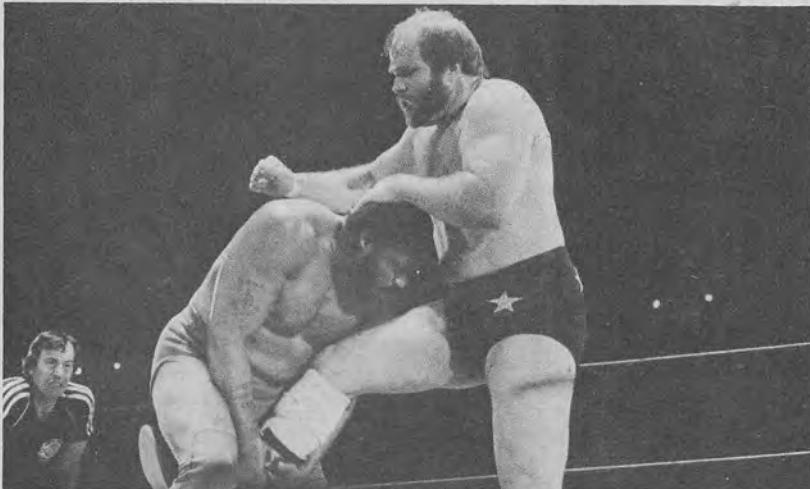


Above: The horror of the Missing Link-Dusty Rhodes bullrope match is forever etched upon the minds of Orlando, Florida, fans. Below: The first battle in The War Of The '80s took place in Washington, D.C., as The Road Warriors battled Ivan and Nikita Koloff.

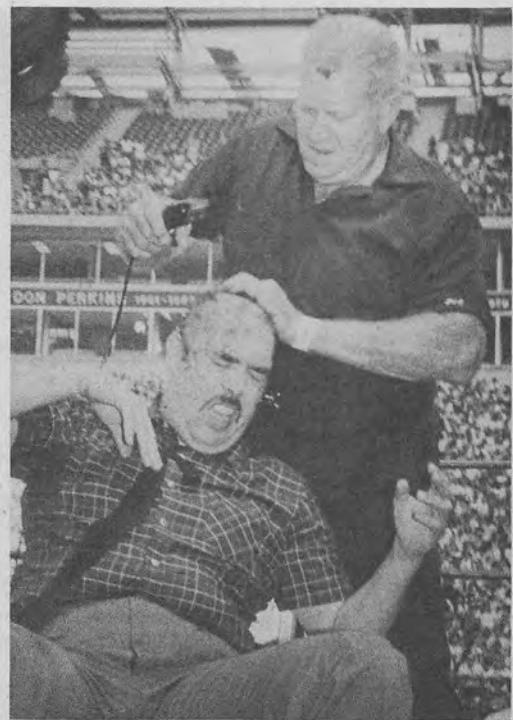
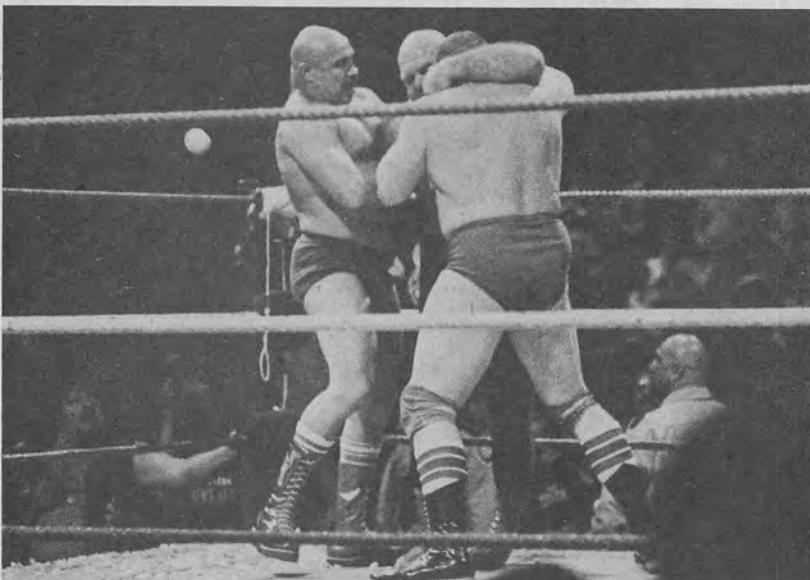


Ironically, the greatest wrestler in the history of the AWA and the greatest wrestler in the history of the WWF made their returns to wrestling almost at the same time. Above: Verne Gagne slaps around Mr. Saito. Below: Bruno Sammartino backdrops Johnny Valiant.





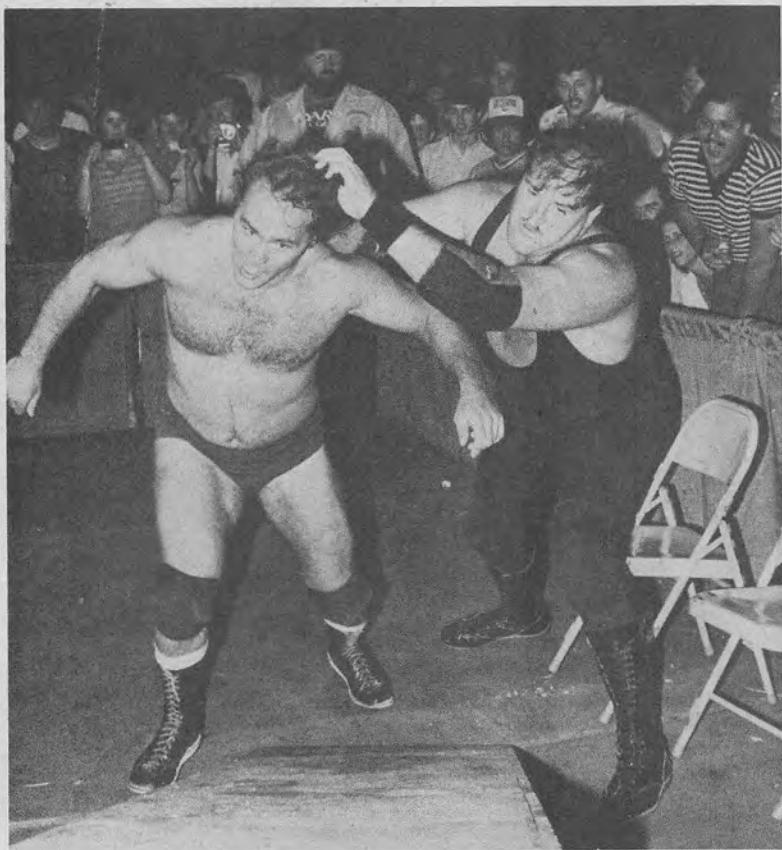
Top: Magnificent Muraco, his insidious manager, Mr. Fuji, watching from ringside, tosses powder into the eyes of WWF World champion Hulk Hogan. Above: Ole Anderson kicks Thunderbolt Patterson in the groin as he and his cousin Arn win the National tag team title from Patterson and Manny Fernandez. Below: The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff attack their partner, George Steele, prompting "The Animal's" change to fan favorite.



The second annual Texas Stadium Parade Of Champions was a big success. Above: Fritz Von Erich is given the privilege of shaving Gary Hart's head as a result of One Man Gang's loss to Kerry Von Erich. Below: Ric Flair, body-slammimg Kevin Von Erich, walked away with his NWA belt after a double-countout.



JUNE

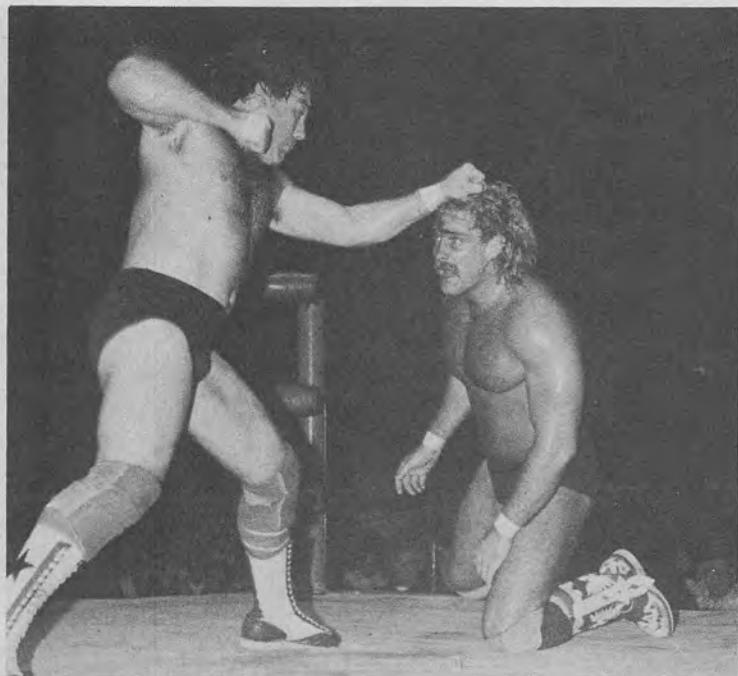
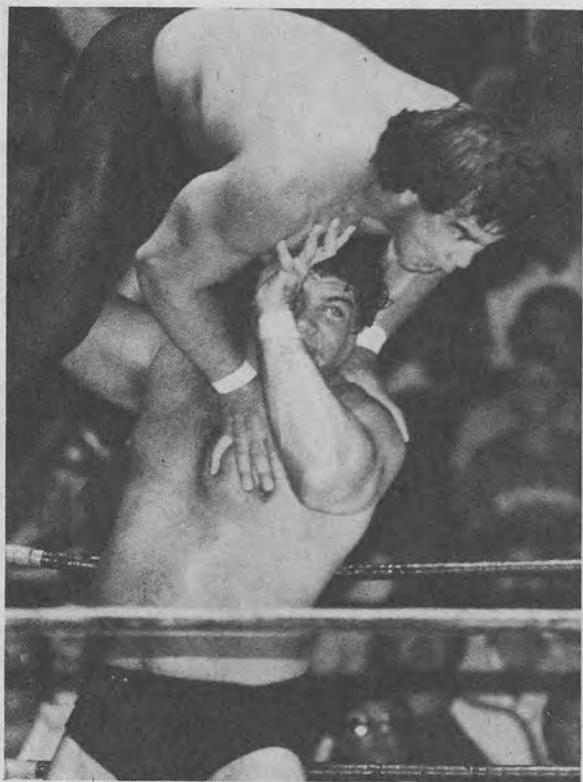


Left: Sgt. Slaughter wins the Americas title from Larry Zbyszko in Chicago. Above: High-flying Carlos Colon captures the WWC Universal title from former NWA champion Dory Funk Jr. in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

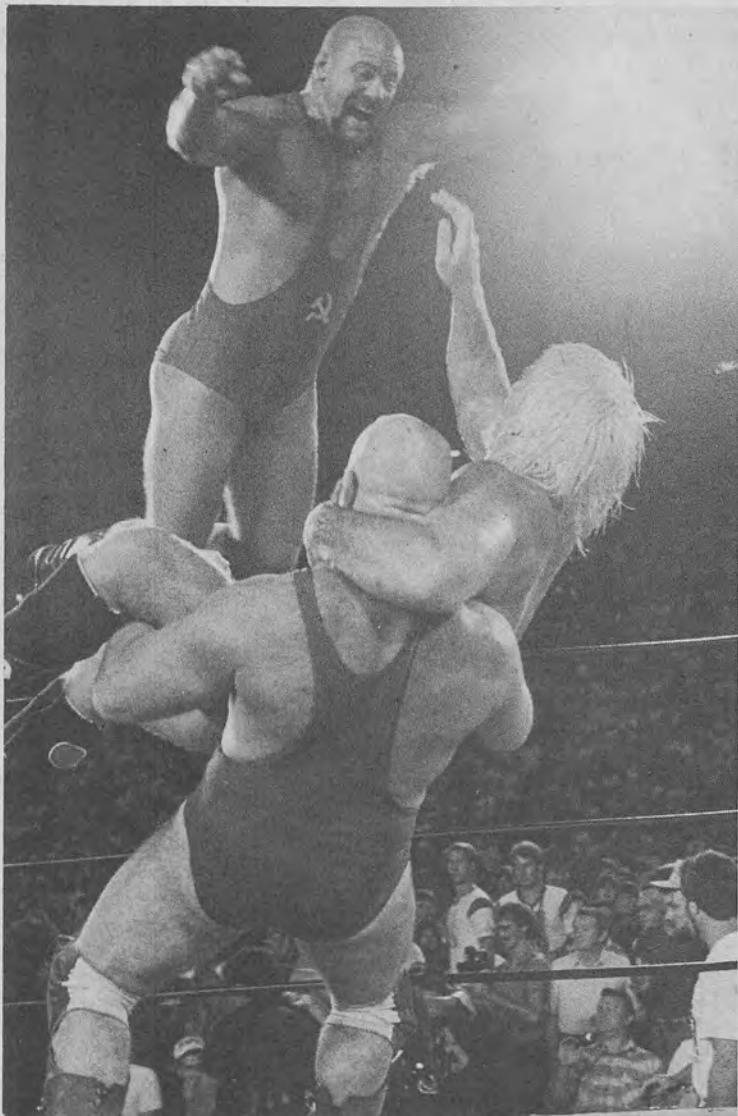
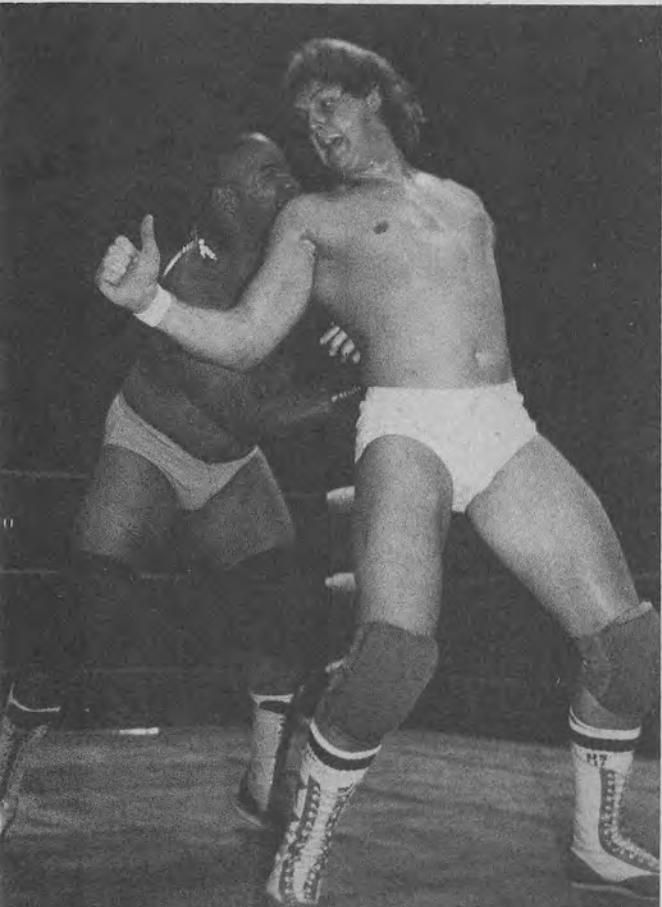


Above: Bill Watts made his return to wrestling to do just what he is doing. Top right: Magnum T.A. felt that by learning the figure-four leglock, he could shock the NWA title away from Ric Flair. Right: Michael Hayes actually defeated Rick Martel and was given the AWA belt, but the decision was reversed after the videotapes revealed outside interference by Hayes' Freebird partners.

JULY

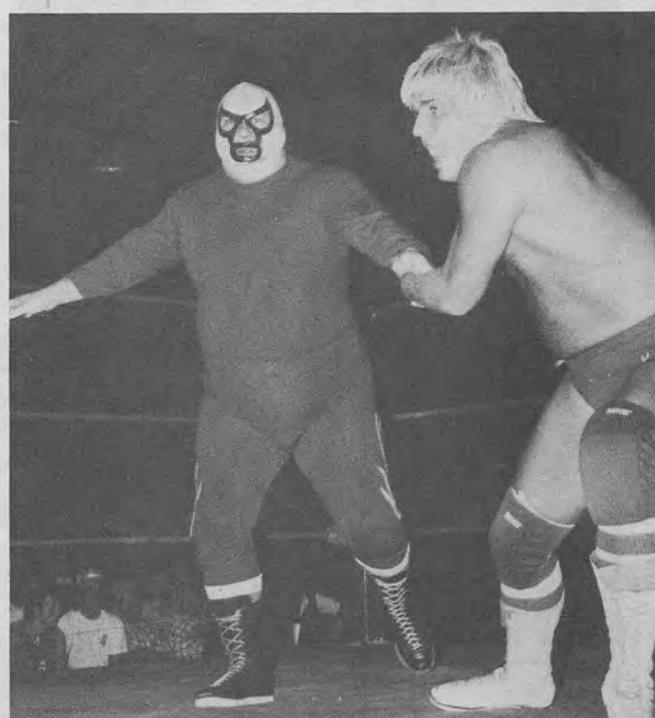
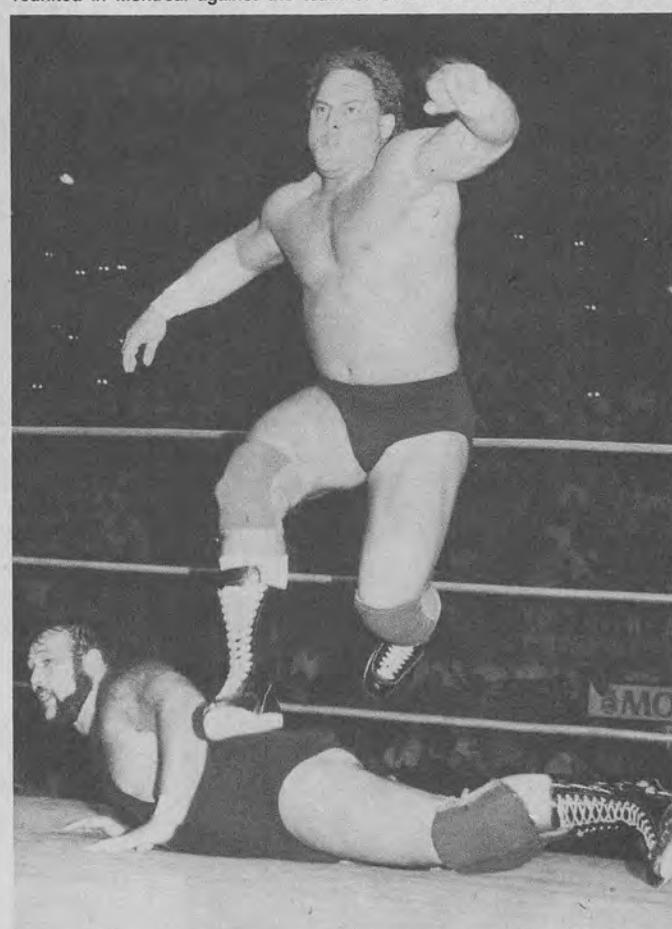
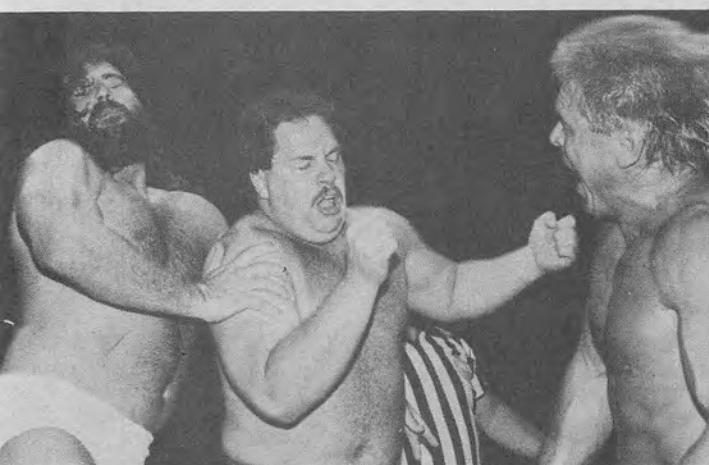
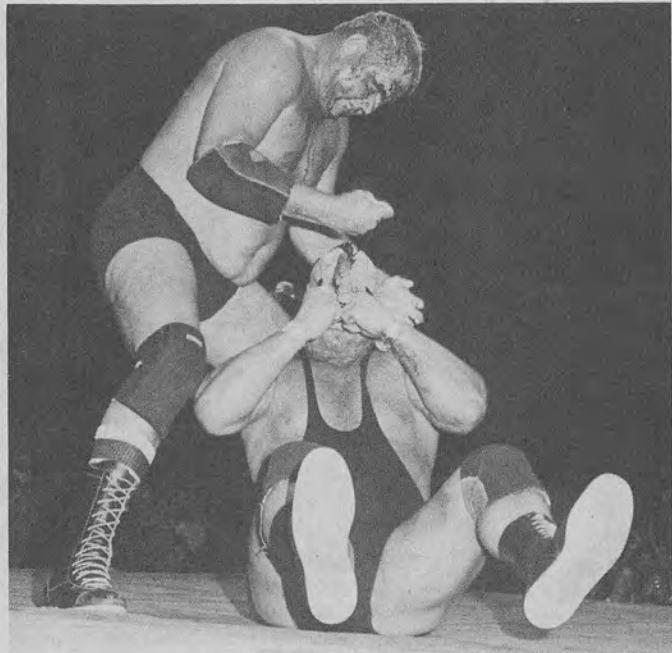


Left: Magnificent Muraco and Rick Steamboat share a common home state, but they have little else in common. Their war began to rage out of control. Above: Tully Blanchard would receive some assistance from a "security guard" in dethroning U.S. champion Magnum T.A.



Above: Caught up in his feud with Kevin Von Erich, Chris Adams made the mistake of underestimating Iceman Parsons, and it cost him the World Class American title. Right: After Nikita Koloff lost his long-awaited title match with Ric Flair, he and his uncle Ivan prove that Russians don't make good losers.

AUGUST

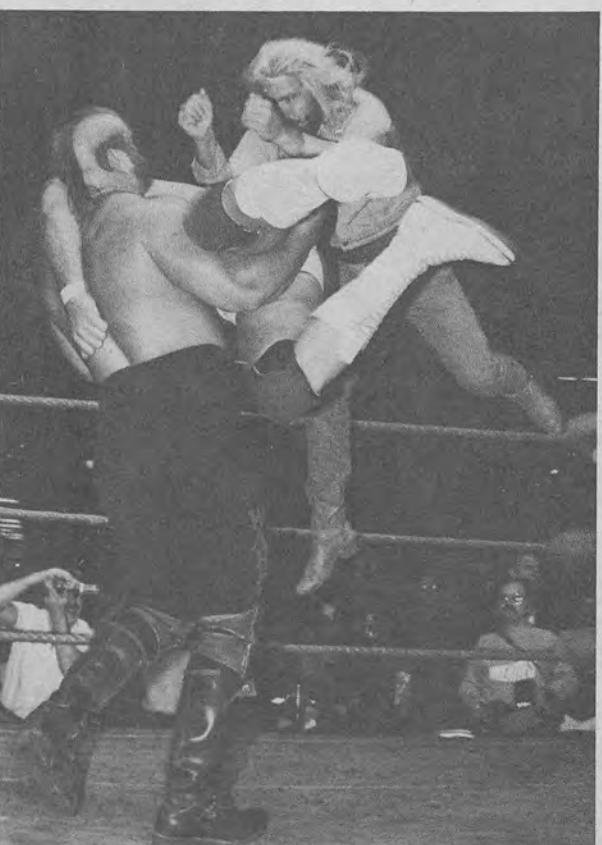


Left: "Wildfire" Tommy Rich was reigned with a title victory over Southeast Continental champion The Flame. Above: In a match of tragic irony, Rick McGraw wrestles Pierre Lefebvre. Both would die before the year's end.

SEPTEMBER

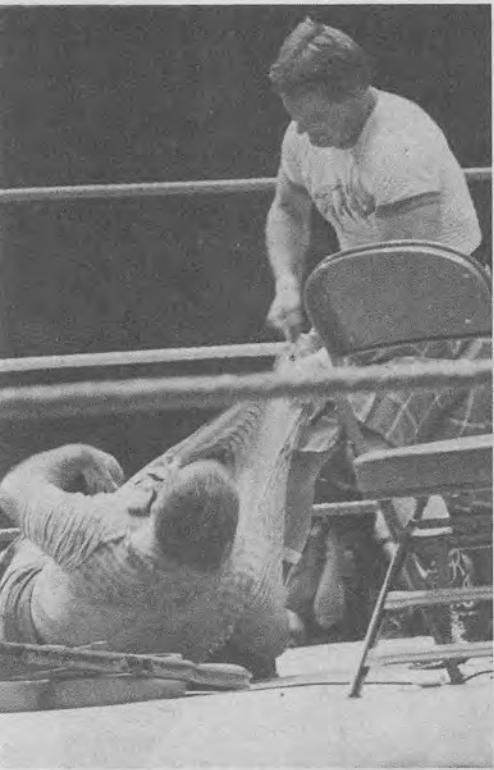


Above: Sherri Martel wins the AWA Women's title from Candi Divine on the AWA card of the year, "Super Clash '85." Right: John Tatum's buxom valet, Missy Hyatt, began her inevitable feud with Sunshine. Below: Shortly after his pro debut, Kendall Windham wins the Florida State championship from Jack Hart.

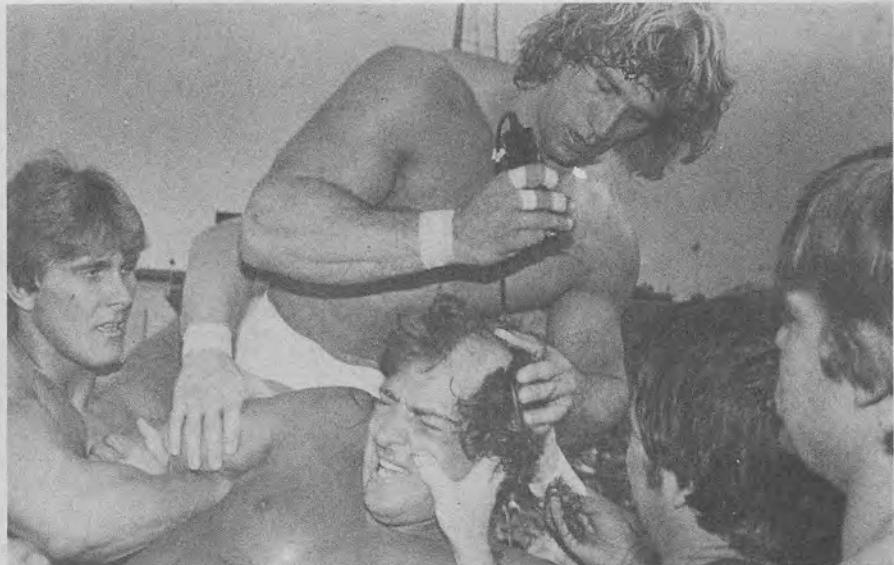


Left: Terry Taylor wins the National title from Black Bart. Michael Hayes' interference enabled Jim Garvin and Steve Regal to capture the AWA World tag team belts from The Road Warriors.

OCTOBER



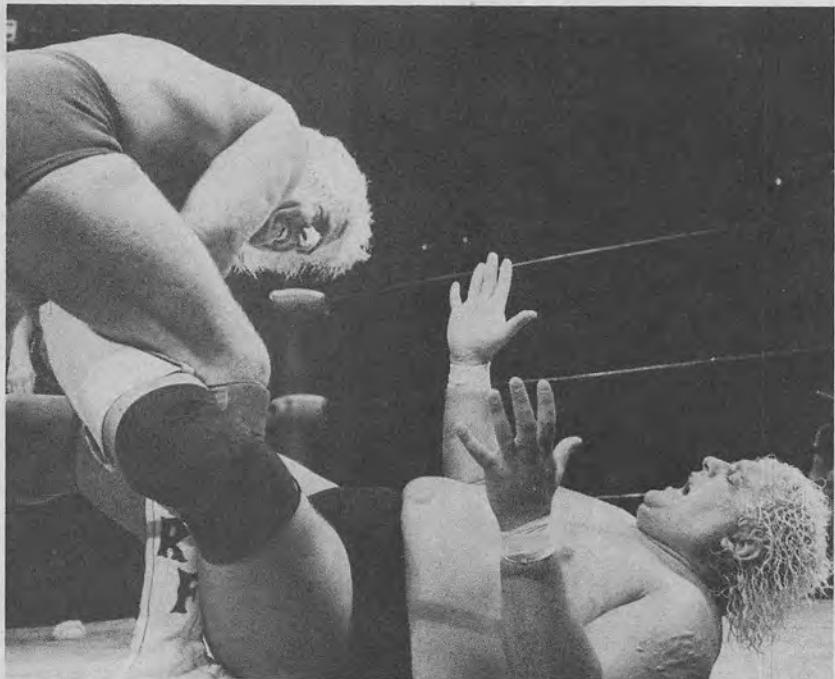
Above: A live "Piper's Pit" segment with Bruno Sammartino at Madison Square Garden ended in disaster when Piper insulted Bruno's heritage. Bruno shoved Roddy, and Roddy hit Bruno over the head with a chair and ripped his shirt. Below: Butch Reed wins the North American title from former friend Dick Murdoch. Bottom right: Ric Flair and Rick Martel eye each other's belts before their historic showdown in Japan.



The sport of wrestling proved to be a new training ground for future hair stylists. Above: Kerry Von Erich trims a little off the top of Gino Hernandez's head as he and Kevin defeat Hernandez and Chris Adams in a hair vs. hair match. Below: Andre the Giant chops away at Big John Studd's locks with a little help from Hillbilly Jim.



NOVEMBER



Starcade '85 was filled with pure excitement and controversy. Above: Ric Flair, attempting a figure-four leglock against Dusty Rhodes, would lose his NWA championship and then have it returned via a Bob Geigel decision. Right: Rather than risk blindness, Tully Blanchard relinquished the match and the U.S. title to Magnum T.A. Below left: Robert Gibson pins Ivan Koloff as the Rock 'n' Rolls regain the NWA tag team championship from the Russians.

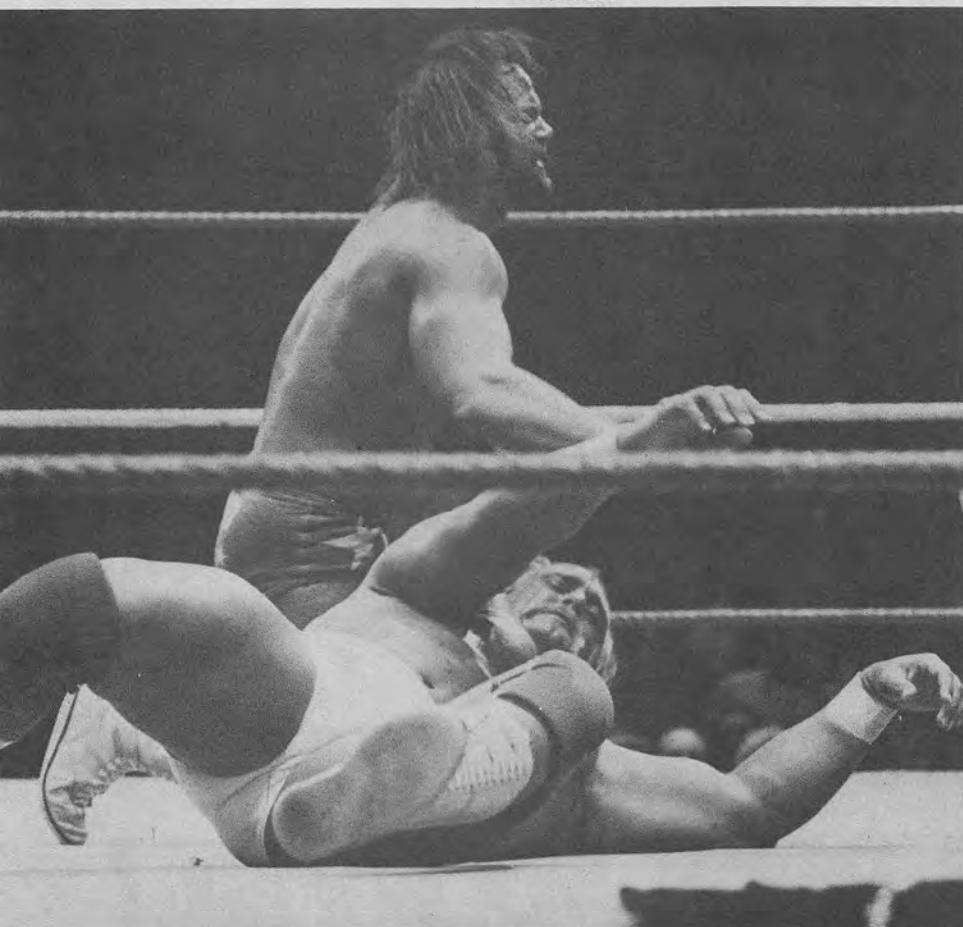


Left: It didn't take Lex Lugar long to establish himself as one of the strongest men in all of professional sport. Lugar wins the Southern title from veteran Wahoo McDaniel. Above: Pacific Northwest champion Ricky Vaughn came to the World Class area with a new name—Lance Von Erich—and new aspirations—the NWA World title.

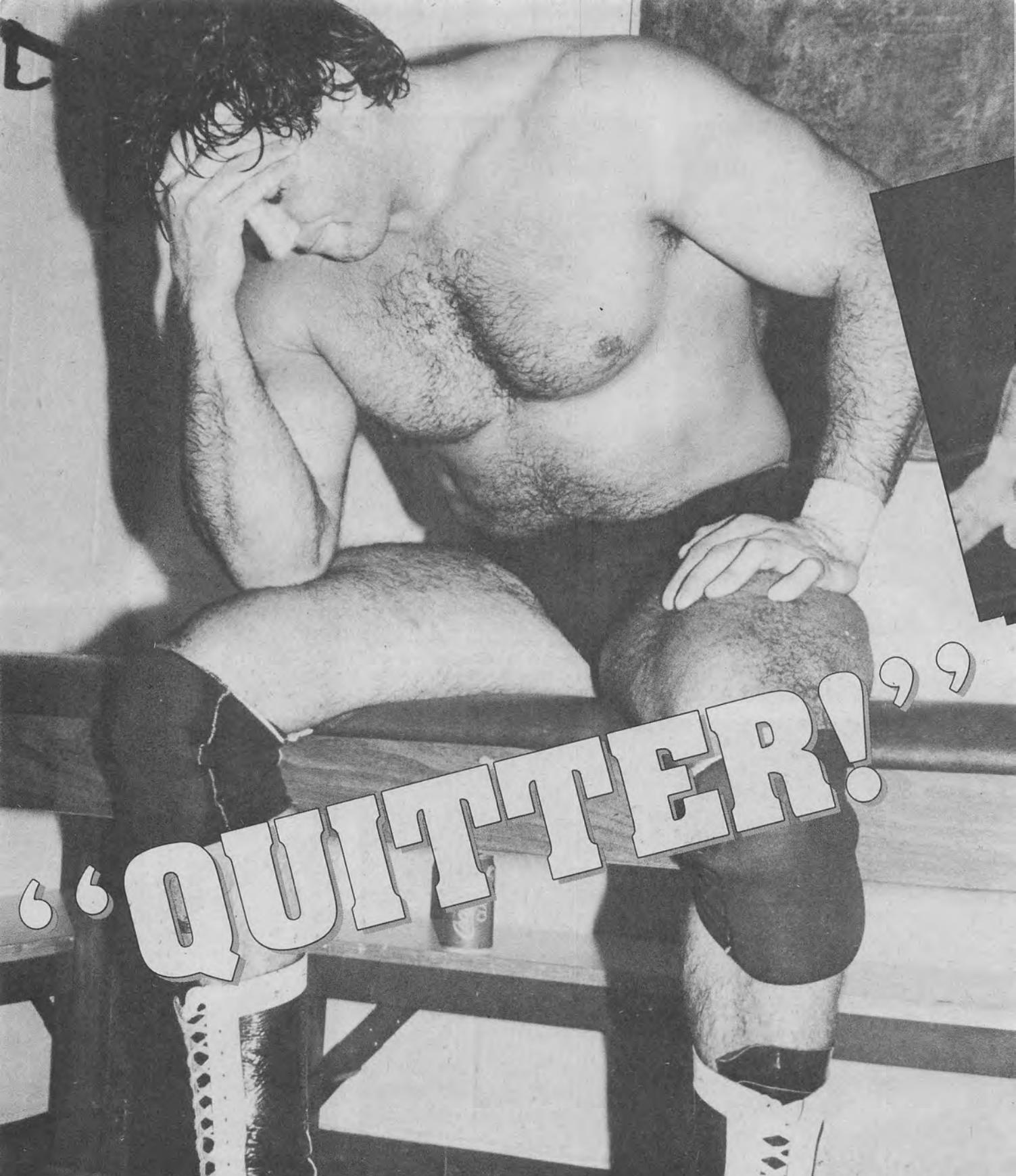
DECEMBER



Left: Fabulous Moolah, disguised as her charge, Spider Lady, stuns World Women's champion Wendi Richter and takes her title. Above: Taking advantage of an injury he inflicted four days earlier, Stan Hansen forces Rick Martel to submit to the Brazos Valley backbreaker, and wins the AWA World title.



Above: After eliminating AWA tag team champions Steve Regal and Jim Garvin to win a St. Paul battle royal, 6'8" Scott Hall accepts a \$100,000 check from promoter Wally Karbo. He later announces that he is turning the entire prize over to charity. Left: Hulk Hogan, wrestling in Madison Square Garden for the first time in six months, narrowly got by Randy Savage. He knew the "Macho Man" would make 1986 the toughest year of his career.

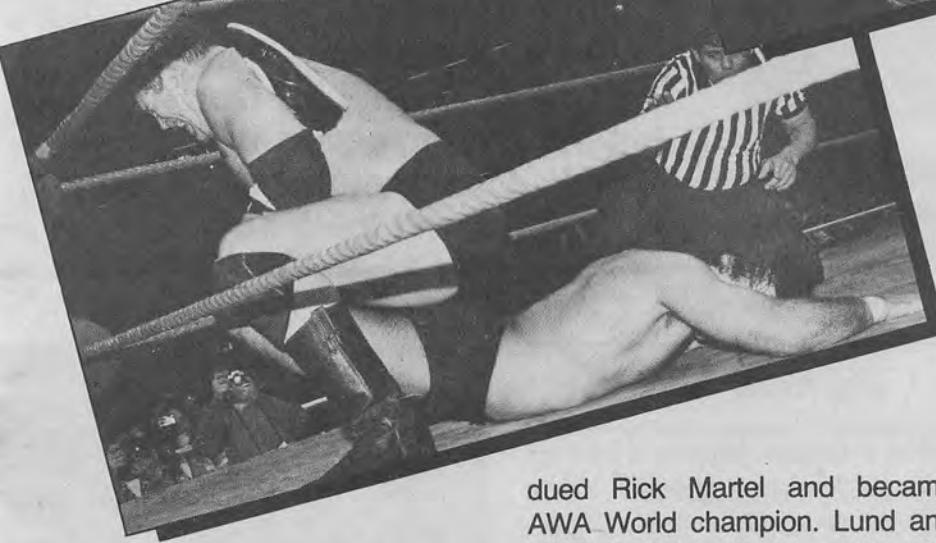


“QUITTER! ”

**THE LABEL THAT
HAUNTS RICK MARTEL!**

Will Rick Martel be remembered more for his submission to Stan Hansen than for his 20-month title reign? The former champion vows he will return to the ring and salvage his damaged reputation

As Martel doubles over from the pain of his challenger's relentless assault, Hansen repeatedly slams his forearm into the pit of the champion's injured back (above). Proving his championship heart, Martel fights gamely despite the pain (right). Finally, Hansen applies the Brazos Valley backbreaker and Martel senses that he will face permanent disability if he doesn't submit (below).



MIKE "MEAT CLEAVER" Hackett was there. So was Nick "Make 'em Suffer" Schaar, Scott "Lip Ripper" Lund, and Darryl "Bone Dicer" Beiber. In fact, every one of the 23-member Stan Hansen fan club was in attendance the night Hansen sub-

dued Rick Martel and became AWA World champion. Lund and Hackett had battled a raging Dakota ice storm in Lund's aging '68 Fury to arrive at New Jersey's Byrne Meadowlands Arena in time to bag beers and threaten two kids out of their front row seats. When their beers disappeared in two gulps, they threatened the same kids to buy them

some more.

Schaar spotted Hansen first, as the burly maniac from Borger, Texas, moved swiftly from the dressing room.

"Chew him, Lariat. Kick butt tonight."

"Hansen, be mean and mighty," hailed Lund. "Y'hear? Mean and mighty."

Hansen, cast-ironed and inexorable this night, ignored the drunken shouts. Martel shuffled into the ring soon afterward, a back injury adding swagger to his gait, and acknowledged his cheers with a limp wave of his hand. The champion looked frail and sickly in contrast to Hansen.

Martel's best effort was no match for Stan Hansen this night. Watching Hansen smother the AWA champ, one knows the hu-

(Continued on page 62)



A pained Hulk Hogan tries to stop the flow of blood from his head following his match with Randy Savage.

Randy Savage vs. Hulk Hogan

THE WAR THE HULKSTER IS DESTINED TO LOSE

Are rumors of the demise of Hulk Hogan's championship greatly exaggerated? Is Randy Savage merely the latest in a long line of overly hyped contenders due to be buried by Hulkamania? Our legendary correspondent Matt Brock, a man who's seen it all, doesn't think so

Photos by David Fitzgerald

I LIKE HULK HOGAN.

I think he is an exemplary champion.

Unlike so many of his critics, I won't be pleased as punch to see him lose his title.

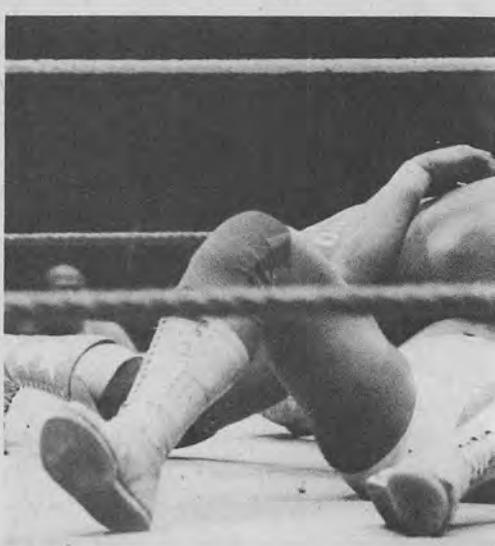
These eyes have seen the glory of a thousand or more champions, and they have seen the glory fade.

Men are supposed to grow cynicism between the scraggly strands of their beards when they pass old time. Your humble correspondent has reacted quite differently to the subtle ravages of nature. I have gracefully cultivated tenderness. My sentiment blooms as

By Matt Brock

wildly as mustard greens in a Southern railyard. Sentiment breathes, and it lives for me when I'm tired.

Now I grew up when the kids were kidded for adopting romanticism. Times have changed. My nine-year-old nephew is cynical. "Come on, Uncle Matthew," he asked me last Christmas, "is Hulk Hogan good or is he just so much bigger than everybody else?" Heroes rely upon suspension of doubt. Heroes today are microscopically examined for any frailty that may





"The Macho Man" has the WWF World title belt fastened around his waist by Elizabeth. Of course, he would not be allowed to keep it.

turn them into human beings. Heroes therefore collapse, terribly imperfect. We murder heroes ruthlessly in the age of mass media.

Cynicism is simple. It's especially simple for a budding journalist to embrace its foul stinking breath. Any young scribbler soon learns that the entire universe is on the take. Now, as an old man whose batteries rust in the recorder, I tend to swear by impressions. I cannot relish the bitter cynicism of my own young nephew. I welcome heroes, because they answer the questions that count. Romanticism, indeed, embraces the truths I am paid to uncover far more than idealism.

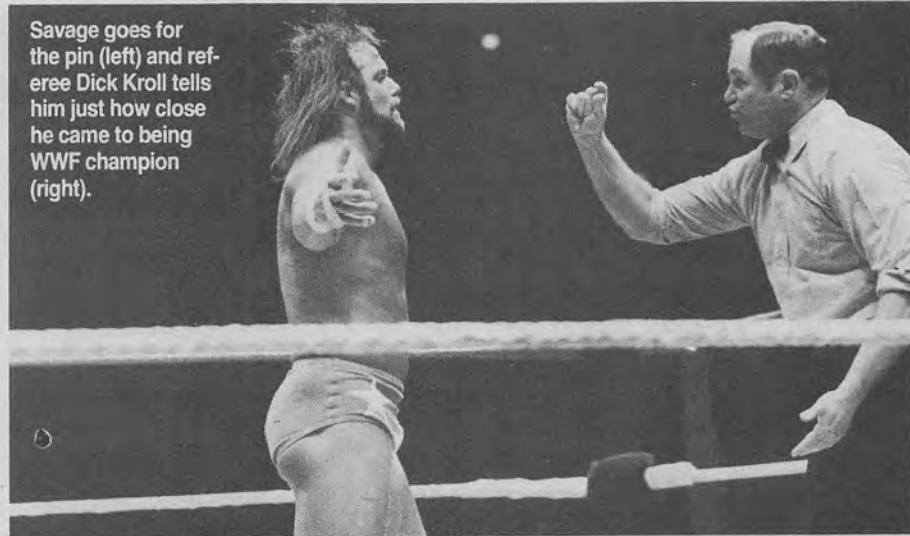
The idealist objects to Hulk Hogan. He says Hogan is a plastic doll who rarely defends his title, and commands few scientific skills. He says Hogan is a product of WWF media manipulation with a fraction of the ability that Ric Flair and Stan Hansen possess. The romantic celebrates Hogan as an athlete who has elevated physical power and sheer force of will to its brightest artistic magnitude of art. No wrestler in the history of the squared circle has ever looked, acted, and wrestled more like a proud champion. The idealist sneers at the championship heritage; the romantic swoons.

I swoon, crippled by the burdens of reporting the decline of a proud champion.

Randy Savage is an excellent wrestler. So are hundreds of other pugs.

(Continued on page 60)

Savage goes for the pin (left) and referee Dick Kroll tells him just how close he came to being WWF champion (right).



MANY FANS THOUGHT Kevin Sullivan and his Satanic protege Maha Singh (a.k.a. Bob Roop) were overestimating their own abilities when they signed to wrestle The Road Warriors. But Sullivan was determined to establish the power of the dark side, and the best way to do so was to tackle the most feared wrestlers in the world and teach them how to kneel. The most feared wrestlers in the world happen to be a tag team, and that's why Sullivan required the services of his demonic vassal Singh—a mere pawn in the deathhand's chess game.

But the Legion of Doom threatened to be indomitable. Measures had to be taken to ensure success.

They were all still disciples of the man, whether their fanaticism remained public or not. Fallen Angel. Aug. The Lock. The Chairman of the Board. True believers who have now chosen to keep their socially defamed religious beliefs private. There were also three unknown female acolytes dressed in nun's habits, silver wrestling masks, black pumps, and revealing black lingerie. On the other hand, Singh and Luna (formerly known as Angel Vachon) were there; they are the favored deputies of Sullivan's present cult.

And there were actually two members of the working press there, one of them our correspondent, in the dressing room lit weakly by the flames of nine black candles. Sullivan has been remarkably cordial with journalists over the past few years, considering the editorial outrage unleashed in the wake of his avowed religious preference. Nonetheless, this particular evening was the first time that Sullivan had allowed outsiders—"wretched followers of the right-hand path," as he calls them—to witness his obligatory prematch rituals. There was one condition; we were to stand against the wall, as far outside the "countersacred cir-

Kevin Sullivan &



Sullivan seems to be praying to someone or something to free him from Hawk's bearhug (left). Hawk draws deep satisfaction out of the pain he is inflicting on Singh (above). Sullivan and Singh double-team Animal, who seems impervious to the pain (below).



IT'S HELL TO WRESTLE THE ROAD WARRIORS!

cle of Baphomet" as possible. As Sullivan explained it, "You may as well be watching us from the Norwegian fjords as long as you remain outside the circle. You cannot affect the proceedings."

It was 30 minutes before the match. Sullivan and his wicked retinue stood motionless within the

circle, surrounding a trapezoidal altar upon which Angel Vachon reclined. She was clothed in this ceremony, but her wrestling tights were drenched with a substance that I hope *resembled* blood. Singh switched on the tape deck of an enormous radio, and a slow, throbbing duet of electric organ and

Maha Singh Learn:



Sullivan, in the ring to assist Singh, stays out of the way as Animal prepares to fling Maha across the ring (above). Singh is about to get the same treatment from Hawk (below).



By Jim Schuermann

In a sense, it turned out to be a Holy War. One team had faith in the devil. The other team had a non-denominational faith in the power of destruction and violence. They went at it like terrorists hungry for action after a week's truce

drums emanated from its speakers.

Sullivan brought the infernal session to order by lightly tapping a brass Chinese gong with a bleached white bone ripped from the rib cage of a wild boar. "The air is purified," he solemnly intoned. "Rise and give succor to Pan." Sullivan's disciples pointed index

and pinky fingers toward the light fixtures, symbolizing the horns of the decadent goat-god. Then Sullivan recited the Four Accursed Names in each direction of the compass; Belial to the North, Leviathan to the West, Lucifer to the East, and Satan to the South.

"Shemhamforash," the disciples

growled as one.

Sullivan paused, stroking his beard with a Mephistophelian leer on his face. The slap-happy guru's smile he generally sports was absent; he looked nervous. Then he began to speak, sepulchrally, his eyes drawn back within the sockets.

"We summon the spirit of Abughadiden to aid us in our struggle against two violent men. We suspect they have devoured the betel nut, but they have chosen to abandon the left-hand path. Our task is crucial this eve, O Abughadiden, for these men are the strongest, most respected magicians of white light. If we permanently swallow up their craven fire, we will earn the power to grant you dominion over all of wrestling. We invoke the ritual of destruction! *Micama. goho Pe-IAD. Zodir comselahé azodien biabe oslon-dohe . . .*"

Sullivan commenced with a stream of Enochian mumbo-jumbo. The ancient demonic language is so difficult and irritating to vocalize that Sullivan started coughing blood toward the end of his tirade. Once they had passed a wad of ergot-laden bread over the supine body of Vachon and burned a color photograph of The Road Warriors, the ritual was over.

Animal was asked about the invocation of Destruction minutes before the war.

"I don't give a crap about hoodoo voodoo," he said. "Hawk and me, we ain't scared of *nothin'!*" He backhanded Hawk in the chest with a clenched fist; they were getting psyched for the match.

"Yeah, I heard about that midget and his fat stooge preachin' the devil's gonna beat us," Hawk snarled. "But they don't know we're preachers, too. We preach the gospel of kickin' people's butts! Kill or be killed! You can't pray to God and can't pray to nobody else if you're stuck in the same ring with the Warriors, man!"

(Continued on page 58)

SPORTS REVIEW

INTERVIEW

TED DiBIASE

NO MAN SHOULD ever have to endure the intense pain and fearful suffering that Ted DiBiase experienced on November 6, 1985.

On that day, DiBiase was scheduled to receive a shot at Ric Flair's NWA World title. Prior to the match, however, Dick Murdoch entered the ring and jealously stated that due to his status as a former North American champion, he deserved the match more than DiBiase. Murdoch attacked DiBi-

ase before the match, peppering his head with forearm smashes and pounding his skull into the steel ringpost. DiBiase was dazed, but remained determined—his match with Flair went on as scheduled.

The match was a bloodbath. DiBiase managed to maneuver Flair into several significant pinning combinations and only came within a single referee's count of holding Flair's shoulders to the mat. When DiBiase moved in to

apply the figure-four leglock, Flair kicked him away and sent him flying over the top rope.

Murdoch was waiting for DiBiase. He moved in, grabbed DiBiase, and delivered a brainbuster on the concrete floor. As a direct result of that action, Murdoch received a 45-day suspension. DiBiase was not so lucky, landing in the hospital with, ironically, the same injury that killed his father, "Iron" Mike DiBiase, in 1969.

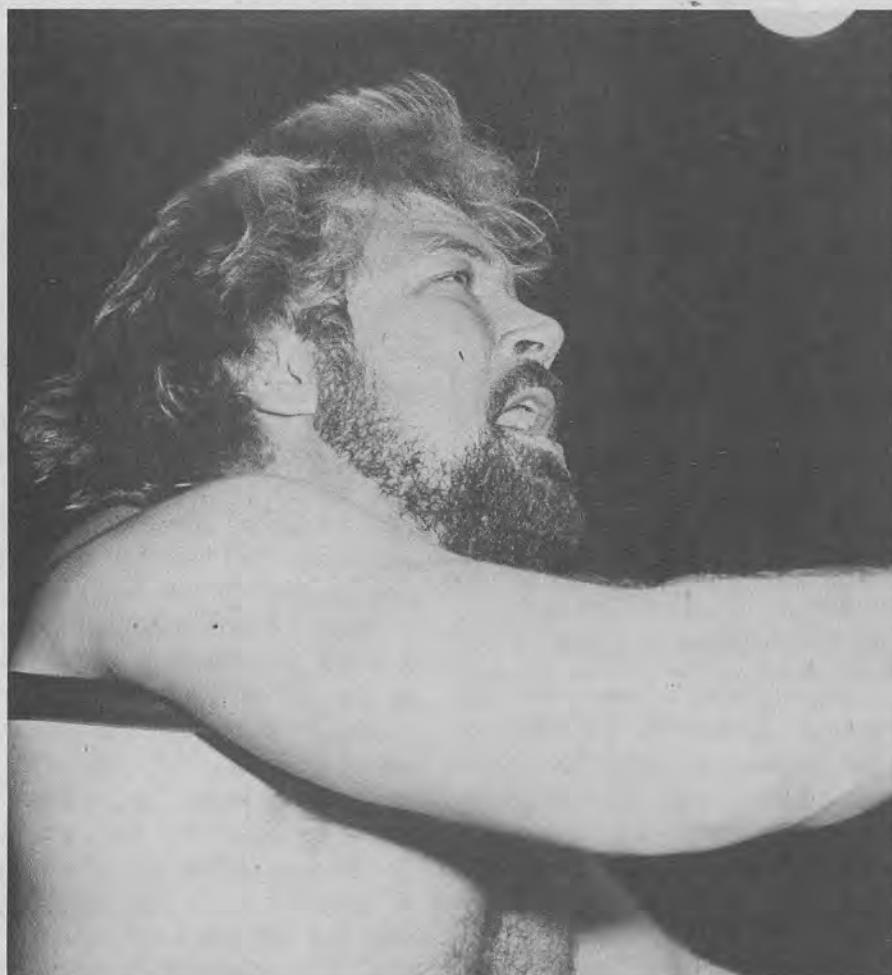
Currently on the comeback trail, DiBiase spoke with Associate Editor Craig Peters about his injury, his thoughts while in the hospital, and his immediate plans for dealing with Murdoch.

Q: It's good to know that you're healthy and strong again, Ted. That must have been quite a fright to have been in the hospital with the same injury that killed your father.

A: Unbelievable, Craig, absolutely unbelievable. I was scared. I don't mind admitting that, because I was. I was terrified. I don't think I have to describe what kind of a hurt losing a father is, and that's something I've always had in the back of my mind whenever I stepped through the ring.

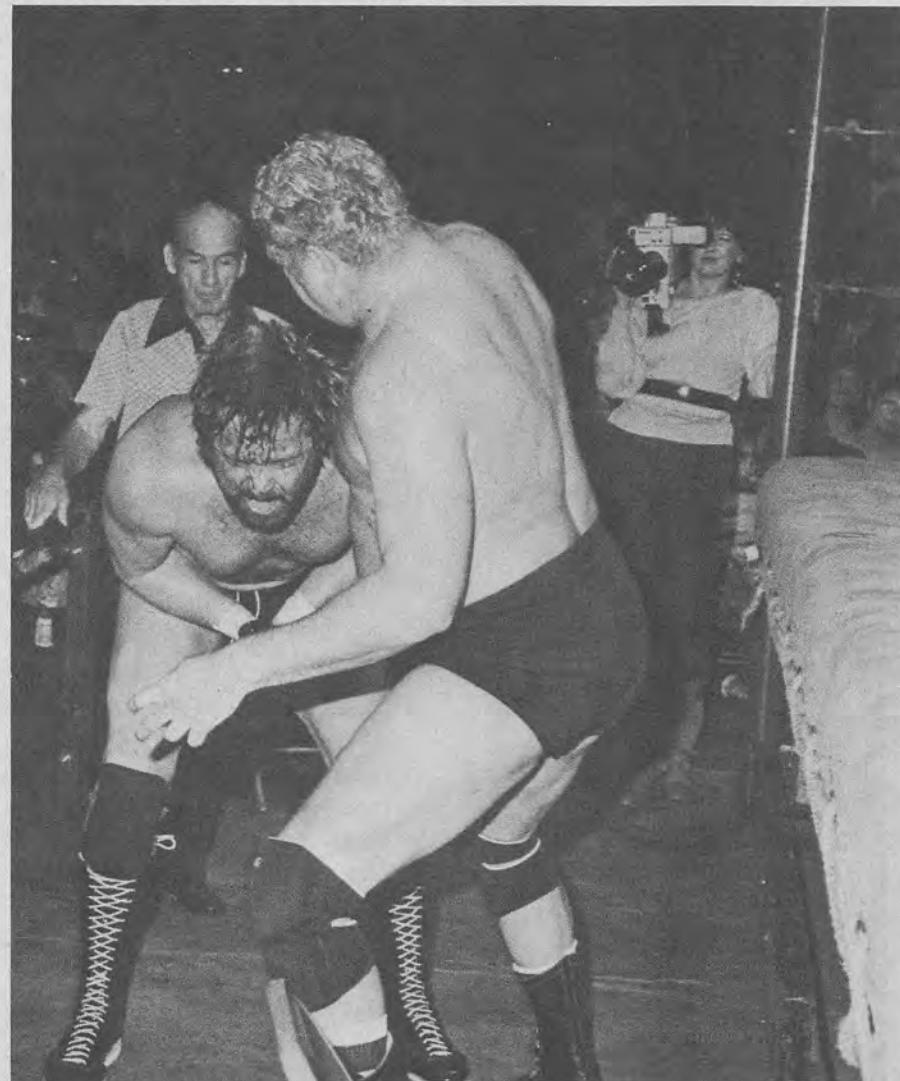
Q: That your father died of a ring-related injury . . .

A: . . . and that the same thing might happen to me, right. So for years I've had that in the back of my mind. Then this stupid thing with Murdoch happens, and I'm flat on





DiBiase, blood streaming down his face, will show Dick Murdoch no mercy (above). Murdoch takes control of the match outside the ring (below). DiBiase knows he has to be alert to avoid another attempted braincrusher.



my back on a stretcher with a mask on my face and tubes out of my body and the kind of thoughts running through my mind that are enough to turn your hair gray.

Q: And those thoughts . . .

A: I thought I was going to die. Plain and simple. I was making peace with my maker. But I was also telling myself, "Listen, you don't have to die. You can fight this thing. You've been a fighter all your life, don't let this get the best of you." Those thoughts took over as soon as the initial shock of my injury wore off. And that's when my fight really began.

Q: Looking back now, with the benefit of hindsight and the fact that you're healthy again, what runs through your mind when you realize that you were in the hospital with the same type of injury that killed your father.

A: I was very, very, very lucky. That's it. Had my head been hanging a half an inch to one side or the other when Murdoch pounded me into the concrete, the spine might have compressed in a different direction and I wouldn't be talking with you today. I don't know. Maybe I wouldn't have been hurt as much. See, it's all speculation. All I know is that I look back now and I think about it, I think about my father, and I get chills and shakes all over. It's kind of a humbling feeling. And I like to think that somewhere, somehow, he was there by my side helping me through this all.

Q: You're back in the ring, now, and I have two questions about your return: First of all, how tentative are you in there after being laid up for so long?

A: I'm a little slower than before, I tend to shy away from letting my killer instinct come out. I think a lot more before I make any kind of a move. Actually, Craig, let me tell you that I think this incident had a profound effect on my entire wrestling style. Even when I'm back to 100 percent, and I'm not



DiBiase, who has not forgotten the science of rulebreaking even though the fans have started cheering for him, keeps his chokehold on Murdoch out of view (above). From his knees, "Dirty Dick" drives a forearm into DiBiase's midsection (below).

tentative about my injury, I'm going to be putting that much more thought into everything I do in the ring. It's kind of like a natural progression, something I can't turn back on at all. It's just going to be a part of my style from now on.

Q: And the second thing I wanted to talk about was the fact that you're being cheered by the fans in Mid-South for the first time in years.

A: Yes, I am, and I think that says more about what a slime Dick Murdoch is than about anything having to do with me. You know, something like this happens to you, and you really begin to put a lot of thought into who's who and what's



what in your life. You begin to think about who and what really mean the most to you. Take a guy like Steve Williams, for example. A hell of a guy. Great guy. A great friend. He was right there by my stretcher side when I went into the hospital, he checked up on me daily, and we had some pretty deep talks while I was in there. For my money, you can't find a better man anywhere than Steve. And as good a man as Steve is, that's how lousy a scum Murdoch is.

Q: How do you plan on dealing with Murdoch immediately?

A: I'm gonna kick the living . . . look, I'm not a stupid man, but I am a man. A man's gotta do what a man's gotta do, and there's some serious personal business I have to take care of where Murdoch is concerned. I know a lot of the fans are behind me now, and that's good. Having the support of thousands of people makes my job that much easier. So that's important. But my immediate plans are to get myself back in 100 percent shape, then to give Murdoch a taste of the misery I had to endure these last few months.

Q: Would you really be so hungry for revenge that you would practically kill him the same way he did you?

A: Let me put it this way: I'm going to do everything possible within the specific structure of professional wrestling. And from time to time, I expect that structure to bend and give a little bit. I'm not going to try and kill Murdoch. I'm not that kind of a barbaric sub-human, but I'll tell you this: If someone else comes running to the ring without my knowledge and starts putting a serious hurt on Murdoch, even though I know it's unfair, I'll shake that guy's hand before I stick up for Murdoch's rights, like I might do for almost anyone else. The lines have been drawn: I'm here, and Murdoch's there. I dare Murdoch to cross that line, just once. Because one real good shot is all I'm gonna need. □

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Ratings shift dramatically at year's end: Stan Hansen became 1985's biggest story three days before the year was scheduled to end when he defeated **Rick Martel** in New Jersey's Byrne Meadowlands Arena. By virtue of his spectacular victory, Hansen shot up to number five in the Top 10, and naturally assumed the top spot in the AWA. If he defends his title liberally, he will probably move into the top three before long. Martel dropped to number three in the AWA for the first time since he captured the title from **Jumbo Tsuruta** in May of 1984. Martel sunk from number two to number 10 overall.

1985 is the zenith of Hansen's career. In addition to the AWA crown, Hansen defeated **Shohei Baba** in July for the PWF title, and also holds the PWF tag team title with **Ted DiBiase**.



The Road Warriors

position as the top contenders for the AWA tag team title, **Ivan** and **Nikita Koloff** (along with **Krusher Khrushchev**) have vaulted past them in the NWA ratings. The Warriors are number two in the NWA, although space problems on the ratings page do not allow us to indicate so.

Elsewhere: Scott Hall continues his inexorable climb through the AWA ratings, now up to number five, while **Roddy Piper** continues his descent in the WWF. The Kilted Warrior is in danger of slipping completely from the ratings if he doesn't pick up the pace of schedule. Piper's inactivity has also hurled him to the lower half of the Most Hated ratings . . . **The Grappler** arrived mysteriously in Texas, but there was no mystery in his World Class Texas championship victory over **Brian Adidas**. The stunning upset pole vaults the masked Grappler into the number two spot in the World Class ratings behind American champion **Rick Rude** . . . **Magnum T.A.** trounced **Tully Blanchard** to capture the U.S. championship and

regain the number one ranking in the World Championship area. Magnum shared some interesting views on the pressures of being number one. "Once you get there you never want to let it go. It becomes your birthright. You'll kill to stay there. Problem is everyone wants to be number one. For a champion, there is no such thing as an off night. You can never, ever drop your guard."

Now listen carefully: One way of calculating the kind of month a world champion has had is to concentrate on the individual ratings of his federation. The NWA, AWA, and WWF ratings are not a consensus of our Ratings Committee, as are the Top 10. They are simply a listing of regional champions (some of whose positions are predetermined depending upon the title) and of the men receiving title shots, regardless of their ratings in the Top 10. These two categories are mutually exclusive, which means that a regional champion rated number three in the NWA ratings may not be getting any title shots, yet occupies that slot solely on account of his title. If there is a disparity between the PWI Top 10 and each federation's top 10, then you can determine the quality of the champion's opposition.

For instance: **Hulk Hogan**, ranked second in PWI's Top 10 and first in the WWF, is wrestling his number one contender in the WWF, **Randy Savage**, who is also the highest rated WWF wrestler in Top 10. So we can see that Hogan is wrestling his top competition this month.

The same is true of AWA champion **Stan Hansen**. Hansen, rated fifth in PWI's Top 10 and first in the AWA, is wrestling **Sgt. Slaughter** and **Rick Martel**, who are rated respectively one and two in the AWA, and are also the highest rated AWA wrestlers in PWI's Top 10.

Not so with **Ric Flair**. Flair has given numerous title shots this month to **Harley Race**, **Ronnie Garvin**, and **Wahoo McDaniel**, which would account for their high positions in the NWA ratings (three, four, and six, respectively), but none of these men are rated in the PWI Top 10.

If you're still with us, consider yourself a doctoral candidate *summa cum laude* in wrestling analysis.

The address: Pro or con, we want to hear from you. Send your darts and laurels to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o Sports Review Wrestling, Box 48; Rockville Centre, New York, 11571. □

OFF

WRESTLIN

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board.



Stan Hansen

TOP 10

- 1—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
- 4—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—STAN HANSEN
322, Borger, TX
- 6—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL
- 7—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
- 8—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia
- 9—SGT. SLAUGHTER
310, Parris Island, SC
- 10—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec

TAG TEAMS

- 1—THE ROAD WARRIORS
No. 1 contenders to AWA World tag team title
Combined weight: 567 pounds
- 2—RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON
NWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 453 pounds
- 3—IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF
No. 1 contenders to NWA tag team title
Combined weight: 524 pounds
- 4—GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE
WWF World tag team champions
Combined weight: 511 pounds
- 5—OLE & ARN ANDERSON
National tag team champions
Combined weight: 525 pounds
- 6—DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
Combined weight: 461 pounds
- 7—STEVE WILLIAMS & TED DIBIASE
Mid-South tag team champions
Combined weight: 542 pounds
- 8—JIM GARVIN & STEVE REGAL
AWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 473 pounds
- 9—KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH
No. 1 contenders to World Class tag team title
Combined weight: 499 pounds
- 10—DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON
No. 3 contenders to NWA tag team title
Combined weight: 484 pounds

NWA, AWA, and WWF ratings, in addition to the regional ratings from around the country, are based on the official current position of challengers to the top title in each category. (Certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings). Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and mail that comes to our offices.

NWA

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

- 1—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 2—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
- 3—HARLEY RACE
233, Kansas City, MO
- 4—RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 5—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia
- 6—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX
- 7—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
- 8—BUTCH REED
265, Kansas City, MO
- 9—LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL
- 10—BILLY JACK HAYNES
245, Portland, OR

AWA

World Champion:
STAN HANSEN
322, Borger, TX

- 1—SGT. SLAUGHTER
310, Parris Island, SC
- 2—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 3—LARRY ZBYSZKO
248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 4—NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA
- 5—SCOTT HALL
290, Minneapolis, MN
- 6—BORIS ZUKHOV
254, Leningrad, Russia
- 7—THE BARBARIAN
316, parts unknown
- 8—JIM GARVIN
235, Tampa, FL
- 9—CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN
- 10—GREG GAGNE
220, Robbinsdale, MN

WWF

World Champion:
HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA

- 1—TITO SANTANA
245, Mission, TX
- 2—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL
- 3—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI
- 4—PAUL ORNDORFF
253, Brandon, FL
- 5—MAGNIFICENT MURACO
274, Sunset Beach, HI
- 6—TERRY FUNK
247, Amarillo, TX
- 7—KING KONG BUNDY
446, Atlantic City, NJ
- 8—RODDY PIPER
231, Scotland
- 9—ANDRE THE GIANT
505, Grenoble, France
- 10—JOHN STUDD
364, Washington, DC

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 2—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
- 3—KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV
303, Thief River Falls, MN
- 4—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX
- 5—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia
- 6—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
260, Paradise Valley, AZ
- 7—RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 8—KONGA THE BARBARIAN
265, Chicago, IL
- 9—SAM HOUSTON
218, Waco, TX
- 10—JIMMY VALIANT
251, New York, NY

WORLD CLASS

GRATINGS

WORLD CLASS

- 1—RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 2—THE GRAPPLER
241, parts unknown
- 3—BRIAN ADIDAS
238, Denton, TX
- 4—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
- 5—GINO HERNANDEZ
224, Houston, TX
- 6—KEVIN VON ERICH
239, Denton, TX
- 7—CHRIS ADAMS
230, Stratford, England
- 8—LANCE VON ERICH
260, Dallas, TX
- 9—THE MISSING LINK
273, parts unknown
- 10—ICEMAN PARSONS
242, St. Louis, MO

MID-SOUTH

- 1—DICK SLATER
235, Tampa, FL
- 2—HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, Glens Falls, NY
- 3—DICK MURDOCH
270, Waxahachie, TX
- 4—BUTCH REED
265, Kansas City, MO
- 5—TERRY TAYLOR
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 6—STEVE WILLIAMS
265, Tulsa, OK
- 7—HUMONGOUS
318, parts unknown
- 8—TED DIBIASE
247, Omaha, NB
- 9—BUZZ SAWYER
240, St. Petersburg, FL
- 10—JAKE ROBERTS
243, Baton Rouge, LA

FLORIDA

- 1—LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL
- 2—KENDALL WINDHAM
220, Sweetwater, TX
- 3—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 4—KEVIN SULLIVAN
239, Boston, MA
- 5—MIKE GRAHAM
229, Tampa, FL
- 6—BLACKJACK MULLIGAN
310, Sweetwater, TX
- 7—MAHA SINGH
273, Tampa, FL
- 8—TYREE PRIDE
231, Haiti
- 9—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX
- 10—HECTOR GUERRERO
243, Mexico

MID-SOUTHERN

- 1—BILL DUNDEE
214, Melbourne, Australia
- 2—DUTCH MANTEL
242, Bucksport, TN
- 3—KOKO WARE
229, Union City, TN
- 4—PHIL HICKERSON
238, Jackson, TN
- 5—HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO
- 6—BUDDY LANDELL
236, Los Angeles, CA
- 7—TARRAS BULBA
237, Outer Mongolia
- 8—BOTA
270, Maori Islands
- 9—JERRY JARRETT
223, Nashville, TN
- 10—TOJO YAMAMOTO
230, Tokyo, Japan

CONTINENTAL

- 1—ROBERT FULLER
238, Dyersburg, TN
- 2—EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET
227, South Wales
- 3—ROBERTO SOTO
231, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 4—BRAD ARMSTRONG
226, Marietta, GA
- 5—TIM HORNER
235, Morristown, TN
- 6—THE BULLET
234, parts unknown
- 7—MR. OLYMPIA
245, parts unknown
- 8—RON FULLER
275, Knoxville, TN
- 9—TOMMY RICH
238, Hendersonville, TN
- 10—JOHNNY RICH
232, Hendersonville, TN

NORTHWEST

- 1—BOBBY JAGGERS
265, Dunlap, KS
- 2—BILLY JACK HAYNES
245, Portland
- 3—RIP OLIVER
245, Tampa, FL
- 4—MEGA MAHARISHI
260, Portland, OR
- 5—MIKE MILLER
260, Memphis, TN
- 6—TOM ZENK
237, Robbinsdale, MN
- 7—MOONDOG MORETTI
245, Boise, ID
- 8—GARY ROYAL
231, Kansas City, MO
- 9—BRADY BOONE
236, Charlotte, NC
- 10—BILLY TWO EAGLES
223, San Antonio, TX

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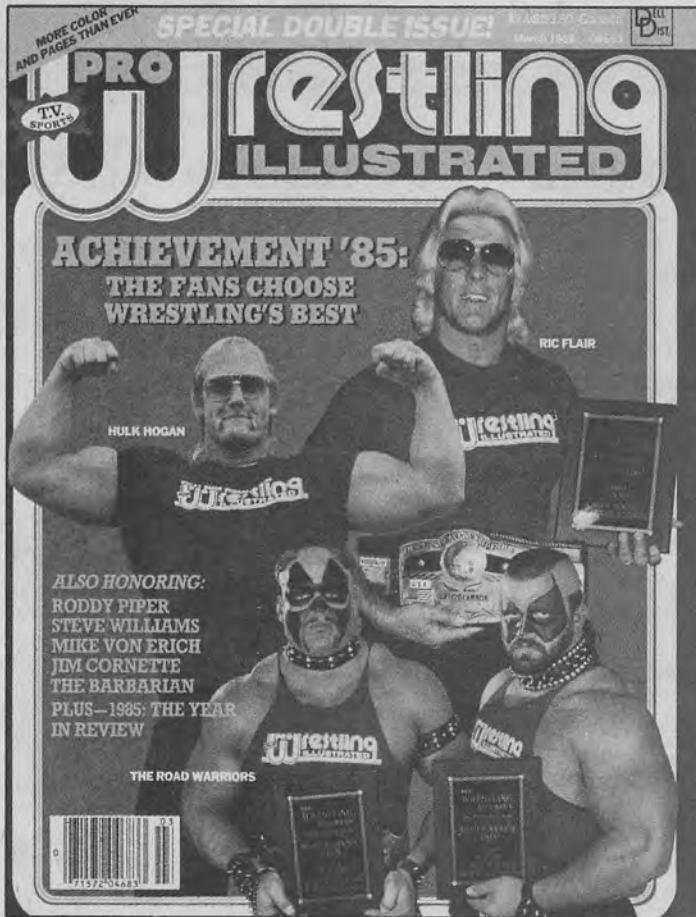
- 1—HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
- 3—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
- 4—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI
- 6—TITO SANTANA
245, Mission, TX
- 7—KEVIN VON ERICH
239, Denton, TX
- 8—HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, New York, NY
- 9—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 10—HILLBILLY JIM
282, Mud Lick, KY

MOST HATED

- 1—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL
- 3—DICK MURDOCH
270, Waxahachie, TX
- 4—MAGNIFICENT MURACO
274, Sunset Beach, HI
- 5—NIKITA KOLOFF
276, Moscow, Russia
- 6—STAN HANSEN
322, Borger, TX
- 7—RODDY PIPER
231, Glasgow, Scotland
- 8—CHRIS ADAMS
230, Stratford, England
- 9—STEVE WILLIAMS
295, Tulsa, OK
- 10—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX

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MAILBAG

(Continued from page 6)

SO WHAT?

"Nick Patrick's Own Story" (February 1986) is an accumulation of mush never seen before in the pages of your magazine. Patrick's treatise on wrestling was so dull and lifeless that a giant snore woke my wife before I was



Nick Patrick's career as a wrestler—and a referee, for that matter—is of little interest to Brian Tevella.

halfway through the story. Even as an official, I thought Patrick was a fluffy, nondescript pancake, and in the telling of his listless tale, I see how right I was. His wrestling pose is about as intimidating as a sorority pillow fight. Yawn. Zzzzz. Get him the hell outta your magazine. If we must be plied with self-indulgent drivel, at least let it be from the mouth of someone interesting and talented, like Ric Flair or Randy Savage. Not from Nick (Peanut Buttercup) Patrick.

BRIAN TEVELLA
Stuyvesant, NY

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Leafing through the ratings every month, I invariably notice the names of wrestlers whom I've never seen or

(Continued on page 49)

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THIS MONTH IN...



The Wrestler



For the love of his valet/manager **ELIZABETH**—**RANDY SAVAGE** must beat **HULK HOGAN**!



The World Class fans are in for a rude awakening, because **RICK RUDE** might well be the best wrestler in Texas

PLUS . . .

Wrestling executioner **LORD HUMONGOUS**: Behind the mask is the face of death! . . . **MAGNUM T.A.**: "My U.S. title will not fall into **NIKITA KOLOFF'S** hands!" . . . Q & A interview with **WENDI RICHTER** . . . **KEVIN VON ERICH** is in the Spotlight . . . **LEX LUGAR** claims he'll run **BARRY WINDHAM** back to the WWF

All this and much more . . .
in the April 1986 issue of
The Wrestler
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You can't teach an old manager new tricks: Is **LOU ALBANO** ruining **THE BRITISH BULLDOGS**?

PLUS . . .

STAN HANSEN captures the AWA World title from **RICK MARTEL**! . . . Solving the mystery of **HUMONGOUS** . . . An exclusive press conference with **KERRY VON ERICH** . . . "Scouting Report" examines the strengths and weaknesses of **RANDY SAVAGE**, **HACKSAW DUGGAN**, **JERRY LAWLER**, and others

All this and much more . . .
in the May 1986 issue of
Pro Wrestling Illustrated
ON SALE NOW!

MAILBAG

(Continued from page 47)

read about. For instance: Tarras Bulba, Tyree Pride, Chris Colt, Scott Doring, Moondog Moretti, Bota, The Flame, The Bullet, Bill Ash, and Roy Welch. Who are these men? If they are so highly rated in their territories, how come they never get any ink? I would love to see a story on Continental wrestling since I couldn't identify any of that area's wrestlers if my life depended on it. How about it? How about a section on the wrestlers we never heard of?

HAL KITTNER
Nantucket, MA



Lance Von Erich wrestles Diamond Timothy Flowers in one of his last matches in the Pacific Northwest. Hilda Moore was probably in the stands.

FLEECED BY LANCE

Ever since Ricky Vaughn split, the Pacific Northwest has been dragging. As champion, Vaughn fought gallantly, his matches equal displays of morality and muscle-flexing. He leaves an irreparable void in his absence. The fans in Texas are fortunate that Ricky turned out to be a Von Erich. His real identity threw his fans here for a loop. We wish him the best of luck with his new name and identity. I just hope he'll come back and visit the rainy Northwest once in a while.

HILDA MORE
Eugene, OR □

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INQUIRING REPORTER

(Continued from page 10)

Robert Krumm, New York, NY:

"Now that sounds like some kind of a right-wing Moral Majority type of idea. Americans have always been arrogant, putting down foreigners and free thinkers because their ideas don't happen to fit the national mood. It's no wonder that the citizens of other countries yell, 'Yankee Go Home' and burn the American flag. The flip side of patriotism is racism, and that's what the idiots who throw things at men like the Koloffs and The Iron Sheik are—stupid bigots who wouldn't know democracy if it came up and bit them on their flabby hindquarters!"



The Iron Sheik demands the fans' respect when he waves the Iranian flag. Robert Krumm feels he is entitled to it.

Rachel Williams, St. Peters, MO:

"Yes, I'll admit that I'm disgusted by the ranting and raving of all the Russians and Arabs and other communists who pollute my airwaves. Yet, if there be one goal for all Americans, it shall be love thy neighbor. It does not matter if the neighbor holds 3 a.m. wild parties and lets his puppy mess your lawn. We, as a nation under God, must not turn away those who spit in our faces. It would be un-American."



Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie rips at Baron Von Raschke's eyes. It took the Baron years to earn the esteem that has eluded the Sheik.

Wilson Clay, Pensacola, FL: "To tell you the truth, it isn't the anti-American wrestlers who should be deported. They're obnoxious, but most of them can't make a living as professional wrestlers in their homelands. I want to see the foreign *managers* deported! All greasy terrorists like Skandor Akbar and Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie do is cheat and interfere. At least Nikita Koloff is a great athlete. The managers contribute nothing. Why does Al-Kaissie need Nord the Barbarian, anyway, when he can hang out with a flaky barbarian like his friend Khadafy?"

Jay Kortz, North Bergen, NJ: "I, for one, would be deeply saddened to miss out on watching Nikita Koloff develop into his full potential. Or miss out on The Iron Sheik's 15 variations on the suplex. Or miss out on seeing Nikolai Volkoff expose some poor prelim bum's butt when he lifts him up by the trunks for a backbreaker. Let's face it, there are a helluva lot of great wrestlers who hate America. So let them. If you don't like it, turn down the volume on the TV set when they talk!"

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TATTER

(Continued from page 8)

had done so many times, purposely disqualified himself.

The challenger, seething with fury in his dressing room, was certain Hansen's move was intentional. "Hansen is not stupid," Slaughter brooded after the match. "He knew the tide was changing. Another four minutes and I would have had him pinned. I could feel it."

"When are these damned federations going to change their rules? An insolent rulebreaker like Hansen can hold the title forever if all he has to do is disqualify himself. That isn't wrestling. It's too frustrating to beat an opponent and have the victory taken away by a disqualification. I'm going to demand all title matches have no-disqualification clauses in the future. It's the only solution."

Hansen's only comment was a shrug of his massive shoulders. "What's the big deal about hitting the referee?" he asked. "The man gets a paycheck like everyone else. He takes his chances like everyone else."

"I agree with Slaughter. Disqualifications are for fairies."

—Larry Cohen

NEW YORK: A recently aired segment of "Piper's Pit" has wrestling fans scratching their heads in wonder, shock, and confusion. Adrian Adonis, hard-nosed veteran of thousands of ring wars, announced to host Roddy Piper that he "was coming out of the closet."

Adonis' statement tinged an already weirder than weird "Piper's Pit." With his shocking bleached crop of blond hair and a belly that threatened to cross state lines, Adonis bounded onto the Pit and handed Piper his treasured black leather jacket. "It's yours, I don't need it any more," Adonis said.

Piper stumbled over himself, so surprised was he to be given the fashionable icon that Adonis had worn proudly for so many years. The



ADRIAN ADONIS

leather had been emblematic of Adonis' sweltering upbringing in the stench-riddled, sprawling, brawling environs of New York City's Hell's Kitchen and the Bowery. The jacket, its skin taut and damaged, had managed to survive the years. The parallels between garment and owner were obvious.

The startled Piper begged Adonis to explain his reasoning, which was when Adonis issued his controversial statement. "I'm coming out of the closet, Roddy," the former longshoreman squeaked and adjusted the bows in his hair.

Reaction to Adonis' statement varied throughout the wrestling world. Southwest promoter Joe Blanchard, who booked Adonis years ago, claimed it was all a joke. "Adrian has an unusual sense of humor," he said. "I think he's just tying one on the wrestling public."

Dick Murdoch, Adonis' former tag team partner, was not so sure. "There'd be times when we'd be together in the locker room and, uh, well Adrian's attention often shifted to places where it had no business, if you get my drift."

—Alison Corey □

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June 1982/COLOR POSTER: Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. PLUS: Snuka, Patera, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR POSTER: Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. PLUS: Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

September 1982/COLOR POSTER: Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Piper, Snuka, Von Erich, Martel, AWA Sheiks.

October 1982/COLOR POSTER: Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

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OCTOBER 1985

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SCRAPBOOK

(Continued from page 12)

FEBRUARY/ MARCH 1976

NWA CHAMPION TERRY FUNK promised to give a reward to anyone who could permanently end the career of budding superstar Chavo Guerrero. Plenty of wrestlers



NWA World champ Terry Funk feared young scientific star Chavo Guerrero and offered a cash reward for his elimination. tried, but none were successful ... The Andersons, Gene and Ole, lost their NWA tag team titles to Rufus R. Jones and Wahoo McDaniel, but regained the belts a week later ... Two referees were injured during a tag team match in Pittsburgh pitting Bruno Sammartino and Dom DeNucci against Superstar Graham and Spiros Arion. The brawl had to be stopped by several other wrestlers ... In one of the most memorable of all matches ever held in Milwaukee, one in which a sharp foreign object was used by both wrestlers in clear sight of everyone, Pampero Firpo defeated Baron Von Raschke ... Harley Race propheticallly stated that he had a lot in common with six-time champ Lou Thesz. "Thesz had the capability to bounce back from defeat—same as me," he said. "I'll prove the point by regaining the NWA title from that bum

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Terry Funk." One year later, Race would defeat Funk and would eventually hold the NWA title on seven separate occasions ... Mr. Fuji toppled Pat Patterson in San Francisco to capture the U.S. title ... In Milwaukee, young Bob Backlund held veteran Kosrow Vaziri (today known as The Iron Sheik) to a 20-minute draw. NWA RATINGS: 1—Terry Funk; 2—Jack Brisco; 3—Baba the Giant; 4—Paul Jones; 5—Dory Funk Jr.; 6—The Sheik; 7—Harley Race; 8—Dusty Rhodes; 9—Mr. Wrestling II; 10—Jerry Lawler. WWF RATINGS: 1—Bruno Sammartino; 2—Ernie Ladd; 3—Superstar Graham; 4—Ivan Koloff; 5—Ivan Putski; 6—Bobo Brazil; 7—Skandor Akbar; 8—Louis Cyr; 9—Bugsy McGraw; 10—Billy White Wolf. AWA RATINGS: 1—Nick Bockwinkel; 2—Verne Gagne; 3—Larry Hennig; 4—Billy Robinson; 5—Jos LeDuc; 6—Ox Baker; 7—Pampero Firpo; 8—Baron Von Raschke; 9—Bobby Duncum; 10—Greg Gagne. TAG TEAMS: 1—The Anderson Brothers; 2—Tony Parisi & Louis Cerdan; 3—Bruiser & Crusher; 4—Superstar Graham & Ivan Koloff; 5—Jimmy & Johnny Valiant; 6—The Mongols; 7—Goliath & Black Gordman; 8—Pat Patterson & Pedro Morales; 9—Brute Bernard & Nikolai Volkoff; 10—Jack & Jerry Brisco.

**FEBRUARY/
MARCH 1981**

MASKED SUPERSTAR AND Paul Jones upset the veteran team of Ray Stevens and Ivan Koloff in Greensboro, North Carolina, to capture the NWA World tag team title ... The Moondogs defeated the popular team of Rick Martel and Tony Garea in a televised match from Allentown, Pennsylvania, and were crowned the new WWF tag team champions ... As per prior agreement, Gary Hart had his head shaved when his protege Gino Her-

(Continued on page 57)

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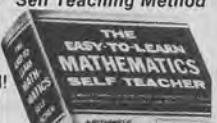
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SCRAPBOOK

(Continued from page 55)



Gary Hart's head glistens with sweat after being shaved bald as the result of his charge Gino Hernandez's loss to Kevin Von Erich.



Ric Flair bloodies Roddy Piper as the feuds between these hated rivals heats up. Piper, at the time, was the crowd's favorite.

nandez lost a match to Kevin Von Erich ... Roddy Piper and Ric Flair were locked into a vicious feud. "I am going to slice Flair like a loaf of bread," claimed Piper. "His attitude makes me puke" ... Lord Al Hays bragged that his team of Nikolai Volkoff and Bobby Jaggers would go down in wrestling history as the

greatest tag team ever. "Just as my ancestor, William the Conqueror, overran England shall Volkoff and Jaggers dominate the world of wrestling." NWA RATINGS: 1—Harley Race; 2—Greg Valentine; 3—Dusty Rhodes; 4—Rick Steamboat; 5—Tony Atlas; 6—Dick Slater; 7—Ken Patera; 8—Masked Grappler; 9—Ted DiBiase; 10—Terry Funk. AWA RATINGS: 1—Verne Gagne; 2—Nick Bockwinkel; 3—Crusher Blackwell; 4—John Studd; 5—Dino Bravo; 6—Mad Dog Vachon; 7—Adrian Adonis; 8—Tommy Rich; 9—Tito Santana; 10—Greg Gagne. WWF RATINGS: 1—Bob Backlund; 2—Killer Khan; 3—Sgt. Slaughter; 4—Hulk Hogan; 5—Ken Patera; 6—Pedro Morales; 7—Larry Zbyszko; 8—Stan Hansen; 9—Pat Patterson; 10—Tony Garea. TAG TEAM RATINGS: 1—Ray Stevens & Jimmy Snuka; 2—The Moodogs; 3—Jesse Ventura & Adrian Adonis; 4—The Freebirds; 5—The Sheepherders; 6—Barry Windham & Scott McGhee; 7—Rick Martel & Tony Garea; 8—The Samoans; 9—Tommy & Eddie Gilbert; 10—Killer Brooks & Stan Stasiak. □

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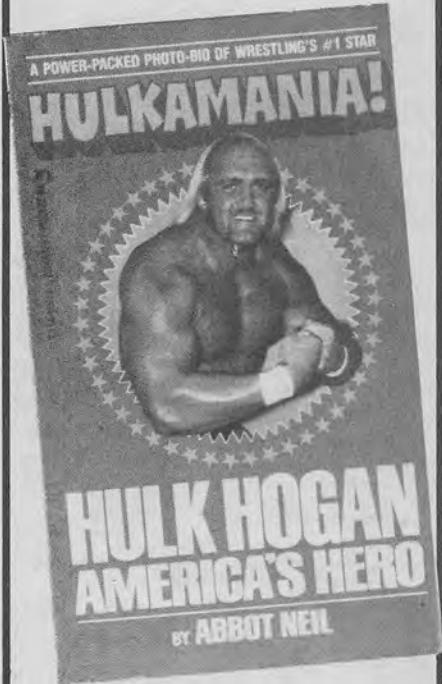
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ROAD WARRIORS

(Continued from page 39)



Animal deflects a chair swung by Singh (above) and will snatch it from him and put it to use. The victorious Road Warriors look in far better shape at the end of the match than referee Bill Alphonso (below).



Their omnipresent manager Paul Ellering went even further. "You know, they say there are no atheists in foxholes. Tonight, Kevin Sullivan and Bob Roop will decisively lose a battle, and they will be shocked to discover their psychological warfare does not work against the ultimate fighting machines. Oh, they'll find that it's hell to face The Road Warriors, and I would not be surprised to see them forego their childish Halloween tactics in the future. Mark my words: The Legion of Doom will put them out of wrestling."

It was hell for Sullivan and Singh to face the Warriors all right. But

Hawk and Animal took more punishment than they are accustomed to. The match was an ugly exhibition of wanton brutality and rule-breaking, and neither team could be excused for their tactics. It was the type of pier-six brawl that shames scientific wrestling. But what could have been expected? One team courts the devil himself, and the other team "doesn't care" about anybody or anything that gets in their way. It comes as no shock that neither team considered the rulebook more valuable than toilet paper.

Where's Lou Thesz when we really need him? □

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HULK HOGAN

(Continued from page 37)



Every time Savage was thrown from the ring, Elizabeth positioned herself in front of Hogan, breaking the champion's momentum (above left). Finally, the Hulkster has had enough. He carefully deposits Elizabeth out of his path (above right) and goes on the attack. Hogan threatens Savage with the belt some experts feel he won't hold for long (right).

Dozens of them cash WWF paychecks.

So why is Randy Savage actually *favorite* to win Hulk Hogan's title in some illicit gambling circles I would never dream of publicizing?

He has the killer instinct. He is not intimidated by the ash-blond *giganticus Hogan*. Nothing intimidates the Macho Man.

When Hogan returned to New York's Madison Square Garden for the first time in five months, he nearly lost his title to Randy Savage. A quarter of a second's difference in two separate pinfall counts would have stripped Hogan of his precious strap. Numerous rematches throughout the nation are scheduled, and I would not be a whit surprised to see Savage win the belt.

What is it about Savage that makes him the most threatening challenger of Hogan's title reign?

One can begin by exploring the nature of Hogan's competition over the past two years. Men like Orton, Volkoff, Shultz, and Studd were talented but workmanlike competitors who surpassed the champion in experience only. They couldn't hope to outdistance Hogan's raw talent and innate



ferocity. They were mismatched, pure and simple. Hogan's only serious contenders over the past 24 months have been Roddy Piper, Paul Orndorff, and Magnificent Muraco.

All three men failed in their efforts to dethrone Hogan because they lost sight of their goals. Piper, a superlative ring tactician when he's thinking, formulated scientific strategies to combat the champion's 80-pound weight advantage; he nonetheless lost his temper and lashed out like the maniac he is in every one of his title shots. Brawling with the giant is homicidal, and Piper has suffered for his inability to stick to a game plan. Muraco tried to defeat Hogan with what he and manager Mr. Fuji called the "hourglass strategy": keeping Hogan in the ring for up to an hour, taking advantage of the champion's presumed lack of stamina in lengthy matches. Hogan was nonetheless able to provoke Muraco into power standoffs, where he knew he would be superior, and cannily reduced every match against the Magnificent One to less than 20 minutes.

In comparison with Hogan's other major title threats, Randy Savage is

most similar to Orndorff. Both Orndorff and Savage are powerful enough to parry Hogan's natural strength. Piper, for example, is not strong enough to suplex or piledrive Hogan, but Orndorff and Savage are. Both Orndorff and Savage have a bewitching ability to combine aerial skills and scientific savvy with brute force; both are twisted egomaniacs with the tendency to pop their corks in the heat of the tough action. Orndorff, as a rulebreaker, came closer to winning Hogan's title than any man before the coming of Savage, but he invariably fell short for blowing his cool.



Somehow, I don't think Savage will make that same mistake. The first few matches with Hogan have been test runs for Savage. Savage is still funky fresh, like the kids in front of my neighborhood liquor store say. Hogan's been out of the ring for too long, and he hasn't faced top-notch competition since last spring.

The sentimental within me weeps to perceive the toppling of a hero. Objectively, I must predict that Randy Savage is smart enough to win the title. At least, if Hulkamania is not in and of itself sufficiently durable to retain a world championship. □

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RICK MARTEL

(Continued from page 35)

man case—no matter how close to the angels we may come—is equal parts butcher. Hansen's ceaseless rage conjured up visions of a starving and rabid leopard attacking a zebra carcass.

With 13:50 gone, Hansen twisted Martel into a Brazos Valley backbreaker. Thirteen seconds later, Martel gasped his submission. Hackett and Schaar turned to each other in sudden sobriety. Rather than cheer for their idol, who tonight proved he was the bold and infallible diplomat of destruction they had thought him to be, they turned, venom side up, toward Martel.

"You chicken\$%\$*, Canuck, Martel," they screamed. "Tuck your tail and go back to Quebec. Get the hell out of our country, ya yellow-skinned coward."

Then the refrain that has haunted Martel ever since. Hackett started it, leaping to his chair, extending a deadly accusatory finger at Martel. "Quitter," he yelled. "Quitter!" as the chorus became three. "Quitter! Quitter! Quitter!" Soon there were more than 23 fans chanting the word, and Martel's eyes, rheumy, puffy, defeated, tumbled closed. In an arena filled with Martel supporters, the former champion could only hear the taunts of fewer than 25 people. Still, the hurt was magnified a thousand-fold.

The charter of the Stan Hansen fan club remains unwritten. Formed by four DePaul undergraduates one blistery, frigid, dark night in a Chicago bar, the club has no required dues, no annual meetings, or uniformed costumes. There is no secret handshake, no password, and public disclosure of the club is frowned upon. What was agreed to in the bar, a bar as bare as the charcoal, humorless night, and smelling faintly of

(Continued on page 64)

RICK MARTEL

(Continued from page 62)



Greg Gagne massages his close friend's injured back in the former champion's dressing room following the match. Martel would leave the arena on his own power, but his night of horror was far from over.

slaughterhouse stench, was that Stan Hansen stood for every quality they admired.

They were tough kids, the sons of laborers and policemen, meat butchers and aldermen, and while their fathers slipped occasionally, their brittle countenances melting in the way of mortgages and graft inquiries, Stan Hansen was unwavering. The kids wanted to toast his toughness. They drafted him a letter outlining their intentions and mailed it directly to Borger. They were heartened when, after two months and several more letters, they received no reply. "Only a wimp would pander to his fans," one of them reasoned. "Hansen didn't ask for our cheers. We don't need him to sign any 8x10s. He don't even have to know about us."

So it began with an informal gathering of leatherneck fans blowing beers before and after Hansen's matches. More than occasionally they'd bring the fight from the arena into the tavern, although no one was ever seriously injured.

On this night, as a stiff northeasterly blew the Jersey swamp nearer to the arena, bringing with it odorous memories of home, all 23 members of the Stan Hansen fan club stood gloveless and hatless in the 12-degree

weather and waited for their hero to emerge from outside the arena.

To a man they were shocked when Martel limped out of the door. But only for a second. "Hey, lookie who's here. The great Canadian goose himself. How does it feel to be a loser, bum?" This was Hackett, whose secret fantasy it was to become a professional wrestler.

Slowly, but precisely, they encircled Martel. The ex-champion put his head down, ignoring them all, and tried to get to his car. "Whoa, whoa, Ricky. Don't be in such a rush. It's not often the boys and I get to meet the biggest *quitter* in wrestling."

Murmurs of agreement lit through the hostile assemblage. "*Quitter*" was repeated several times. "Whassamatter, dork? Hansen too much a man for you," Hackett cried.

Martel dropped his gym bag and in a motion too swift to see grabbed Hackett's arm and spun him around. "Look, kid, I'm tired, I'm hurt, and I want to go home. I've heard about you guys. You're so tough that I won't break your arm. Okay, punk?"

Martel added pressure to the excruciating hold. "Okay, okay, man. Leave me alone. You're hurting me, man." Tears swelled in Hackett's eyes. Martel released

the kid and walked, untouched, to his rented car. Twenty-three pairs of eyes dropped to the sidewalk.

Martel discussed the incident a week later at his home in Quebec City. "I thought that was the last straw. Here I am surrounded by a gang of teenagers. The kid who was talking all the noise had a face full of pimples, for crying out loud." Martel himself was close to tears. "It's crazy. There are so many nuts out there. What if he had a gun? Or a knife? What if they all decided to jump me? I could have taken eight, 10 at a time, but there must have been 20 of them."

"And what if I broke the kid's arm by accident? Oh, jeez, I don't know." Known for his animated smile, Martel's head hung dejectedly. "I'm not quitter. I've never quit anything in my whole life. Now kids see me in the neighborhood and point to me and yell '*defaitiste*,' the French word for quitter."

"These children, they were my friends. They loved me. Now they mock me. I know how Roberto Duran felt after he quit against Sugar Ray Leonard."

Three osteopathic specialists who examined Martel all have said that Hansen's submission hold would have permanently curved Martel's spine if he had not relented. "Five more seconds and Martel would be a cripple," said Dr. Ezekial Sminson, of New York's Mt. Sinai hospital. "Because of his previous injury, he had no choice but to submit."

Will Martel return, as Duran did, and silence his critics? "As soon as my back heals I will wrestle again," he said. "I defeated Hansen 10, 15 times in my career. I will regain my championship. I will prove to myself and my fans that I am not a quitter. *I am not a quitter!*"

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NO SUN! NO LAMPS! NO DRUGS!

Get the world's safest tan!

Get the world's fastest tan!

Get the most affordable tan!

**AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE
A PILL OR WAIT ONE MINUTE!**

Talk about good looks! Nothing makes you look better, healthier, more energetic than a rich, golden tan. We all know what some people will go through to achieve it . . . hours of sitting in the broiling sun or basking on a rooftop or sweltering under an expensive sun lamp . . . and now . . . some have even been induced to take pills . . . that promise to tan you from the **Inside**. But how would you like to be able to put on a rich, **satiny-finish** golden tan as easily as putting on your clothes? And a more beautiful tan than you can get from the sun or a lamp or any pill! Marvelous INSTANTAN is here now and creating a whole new happy following of boosters.

**Lasts as long as a sun tan!
Won't come off till you want it to!**

INSTANTAN is not just another cover-up. It's an entirely new KIND of a product . . . that slips on as smooth as cream . . . sinks into the skin like a real suntan, without streaks or give-away signs of any kind and leaves you with a tan that's better, safer and more flattering than any sunbather or sunlamp sitter or pill-taker. Swim with it. Shower with it. But show it off as much as possible and watch them all envy that golden satiny, healthy-looking gloss.

Great tan for your entire body!

We want to emphasize . . . INSTANTAN is **GOOD** for your skin. Its dermatologically formulated with a collection of your skin's best helpers . . . plus an ingredient that adds a pigment developed with the aid of men's fashion consultants to achieve the color and glow most flattering to macho men. It contains elements that no other product of its kind has ever been able to boast before. It is indeed science's answer to a long-standing demand for a skin-tanning process that takes no time at all and does away with tedious methods now practiced.

Costs less in time and money!

Sun bathing takes lots of time and costs money in travel, lotions, and hours of basking in strong sunlight. INSTANTAN costs only pennies per application; takes only minutes and actually improves your skin better than lotions and balms and ointments costing up to ten times as much. And here's one **MORE** but very important **PLUS** . . . INSTANTAN is **guaranteed** . . . and we mean **UNCONDITIONALLY** . . . to be all we say . . . and to do all we promise . . . as fast as we say it will. All we want you to do is **try it**. Spread a little on

your skin. See how great it **FEELS**. Notice how great it looks! **That satiny golden sheen.** That healthy beachcomber look. That jet-setter vacation affluence you emanate. You'll have the look you've been envying on others. The glow of success. The appearance of well-being. And underneath your tan, your skin will take on a fine, smooth tone that only a well-cared-for complexion has.

**High quality skin-care product.
Guaranteed to improve your skin.**

Men of fair skin whom nature cheated out of the joy of a rich, healthy tan by making them turn beet-red and suffer pain, stop hiding from threatening ultra-violet rays! Your time has come! Spread on INSTANTAN and look marvelous! Stop worrying about the vulnerability to skin disease. INSTANTAN is good for fair skin especially! See how smooth, flexible and youthful your skin will become. Say goodbye to the lobster look and say hello to that rich, golden, satin-gloss look you've always wished for. Fair skin or olive skin . . . INSTANTAN is for you. Wait till you see for yourself!

Not just a skin cover but a deep-down penetrating treatment.

We want you to give INSTANTAN the quick-spread test. Just rub it on any part of your body. See how it sinks INTO your skin. How smoothly it spreads. How good it feels. And how its satiny finish looks like the perfect suntan in rich glow, color and texture. How natural! Your friends will compliment you . . . and envy you.

INSTANTAN is the triumphant result of persistent, patient, extensive scientific research!

Dermatologists, bio-chemists, pharmacists and researchers pooled their collective knowledge to bring forth a product that works like magic. Soothes, smooths, colors, nourishes, protects, improves and stays on. Then off it comes, completely and easily WHEN YOU WANT IT TO. If that isn't something to shout about, we don't know our miracles . . . and we've brought forth a few. Try it yourself without risk.

A personal note from us to you...

Before INSTANTAN is offered through national retail channels, we have induced the laboratories not only to permit us to bring this wonder product to you by mail order, but to let us set the price as low as possible for a predetermined time. The great success we have had with over a dozen new products in the very recent past has given us special prestige with research laboratories, not to mention an enviable position among consumers. Our guarantee on all our products means a lot.



**No more hours of broiling! No more waiting! Tan right away!
GLOWING NATURAL BRONZE!**

Ever on the alert to bring our many friends new and wonderful products at prices they can well afford, we are justifiably proud to bring you INSTANTAN because we know of nothing else like it. So confident are we that you will not only delight in it but tell your closest friends and family about it that we have specially lowered the offering price in anticipation of extraordinarily large volume through recommendation. Only by trying it can you even begin to appreciate it. Therefore, we urge you to order now and get our quick delivery.

If you're not absolutely thrilled with what INSTANTAN does for you return it for full refund!

What else can we do but impress upon you the fact that we take all the risk? How else can we convince you that we are 100% sincere when we make claims that are so sensational they are hard to believe? But if you try this product and for any reason feel even the slightest bit dissatisfied, we will gladly refund your money. Our good reputation is at stake.

**NANCY JONES HEALTH WORLD, INC. Dept. A27
P.O. BOX 879, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441**

OKAY! Send me a supply of INSTANTAN and if it doesn't produce a better tan than the sun, or a lamp or pills I understand I can get my money back . . . no delay or questions . . .

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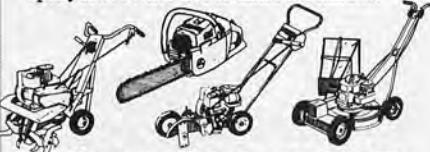
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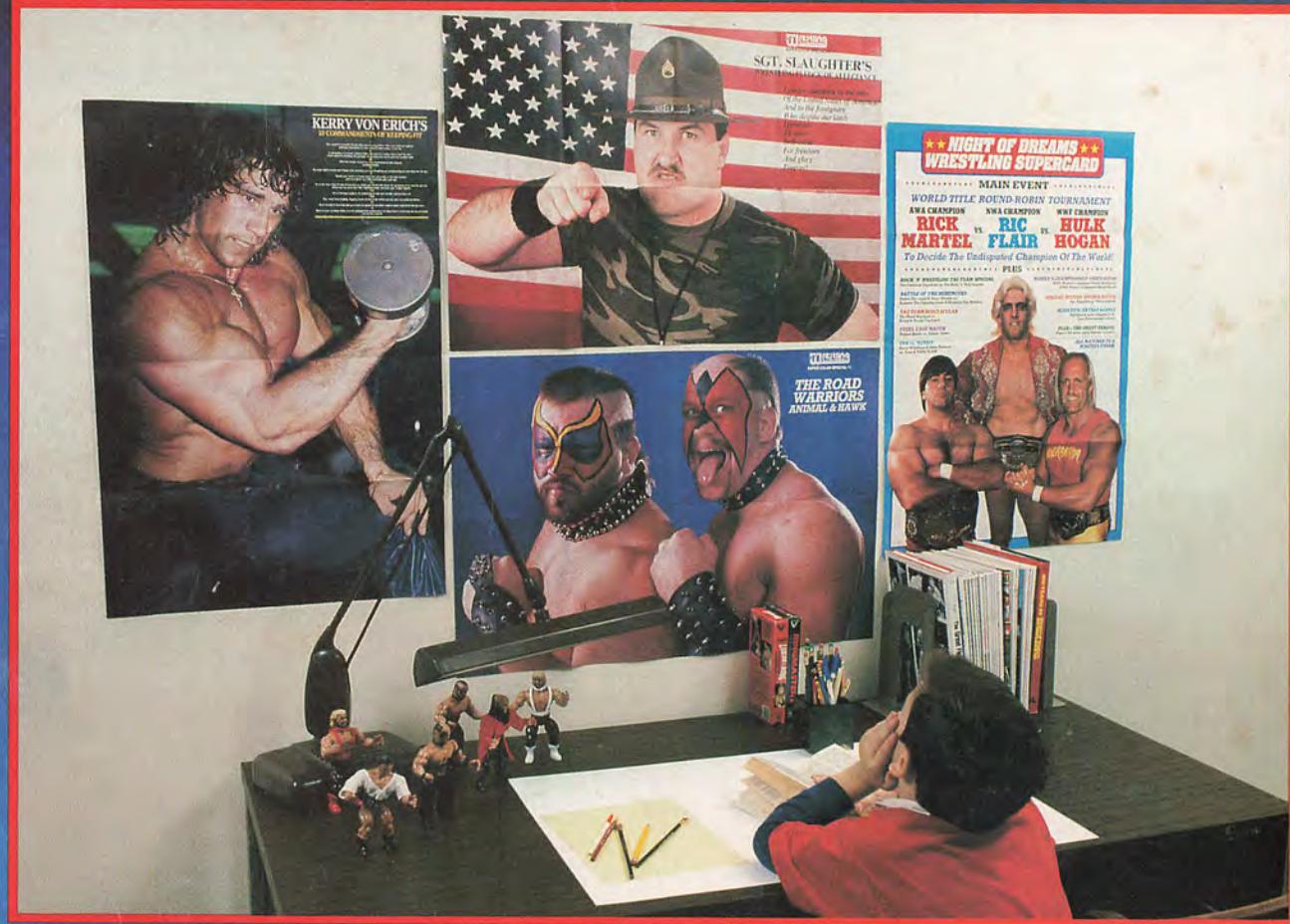
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